

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 61

Section 1

September 12, 1927.

BABSON ON BUSINESS SITUATION A Wellesley, Mass., dispatch to the press of September 11 says: "The immediate outlook for business is good, Roger Babson told the delegates to the annual National Business Conference at its opening session September 10. He strongly advised conservatism both in business and investments during next year, drawing his conclusion from the trends of the business factors now. Mr. Babson said, in part: 'A condition exists in the business world to-day that has never before existed since statistics on business conditions have been available. I refer to the fact that we are in a period of declining interest rates, which heretofore has never been followed by a panic; and at the same time are in a period of declining commodity prices, which heretofore has never been followed by good times. That is, economic history shows that it has always needed high interest rates to bring on a panic, that it has always needed increasing commodity prices to bring on prosperity, and that the two factors have never before existed simultaneously. Yet to-day we have the apparent paradox of low interest rates and declining commodity prices. The reason for this unusual situation is that there is to-day in the United States an excess of everything except religion. There is an excess of gold, which is the basic cause of present dangerous inflation; there is an excess of manufacturing capacity, which is the cause of present severe competition; there is an excess of copper, lumber, oil, coal, rubber and other raw materials which is upsetting commodity markets. The volume of business to-day is good, but competition is so severe and efficiency so low that profits are small. Statistics indicate that this same condition will extend into 1928....The Central West and Northwest districts are expected to make a good showing in 1928 because of crop optimism. The South also promises some increase in building as a result of higher cotton and corn prices....'"

MR. HOOVER ON FLOOD RELIEF A press dispatch to-day from Little Rock, Ark., says: "Secretary Hoover concluded his tour of the sore spots in the Mississippi, Louisiana and Arkansas flood areas September 10 with a series of conferences with the Arkansas relief officials. In the opinion of Mr. Hoover the situation in the flood country is improving all along the line, although it is still a very grave problem which involves the actual sustenance of more than 60,000 people and the future financing of between 200,000 and 300,000 persons, 90 per cent farmers, in the three States...."

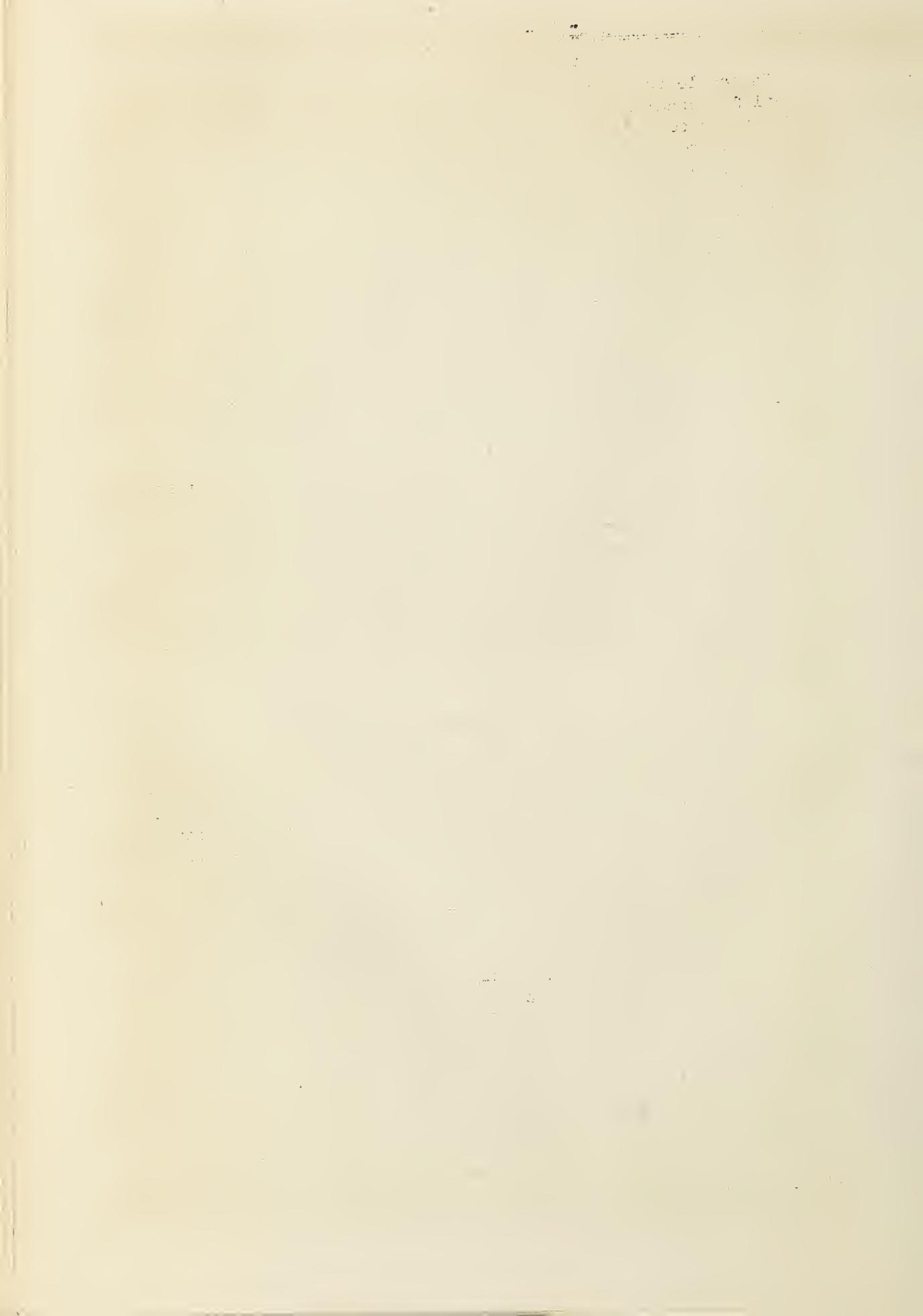
MCCARL ON FLOOD WORK FUNDS The press of September 11 reports: "Comptroller General McCarl September 10 again refused to authorize the War Department to use \$2,000,000 of the 1927 unexpended rivers and harbors appropriation for Mississippi flood work. The responsibility for flood control in the Mississippi River flooded area does not rest wholly upon the United States, but is for the consideration of the States legislative bodies at least equally with the consideration of Congress, McCarl held...."

Section 2

Business
Outlook

Favorable business prospects are seen by the American Bankers Association Journal in its current monthly review, which says: "Business forecasts seem quite generally agreed that the outlook is favorable, that there will be a considerable expansion this fall and that good business appears to be assured for the year 1927 up to the end. Comments on the present trade position are not so uniform. Reports of the various authorities, speaking from their different viewpoints and experience, and often guided by their individual indexes, indicate that the usual seasonal recession this summer has been considerably more than normal, or that business has been maintained much more actively than normal, or that there have been no fundamental changes whatever. The more one reads the more indefinite the picture becomes. Our own 'guess,' judging from the reports that come into the large commercial banks and confirmed by the condition of customers' financial statements received, is that general trade this summer has run along in very substantial volume, and while its aggregate may not quite measure up to the record year 1926, usually used for comparison, if one looks back a few years previous the current figures make an impressive showing....The reduction in Federal Reserve rediscount rates was not made because business needed the stimulation, for the Chicago Reserve Bank, representative of the West with its crop-moving demands coming on, has not lowered the rate, while New York, with eastern business not using so much funds and the stock market absorbing too much, nevertheless cut its rate; the explanation of which must lie in the plethora of money resulting from gold importations, and possibly also the desire to cooperate with the Bank of England in its efforts to keep the London and Continental money markets low and prevent a drain of gold....."

Butter Marketing An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman for September 10 says: "When the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., started six years ago, only 32 per cent of their butter could be marketed under a brand. In 1926 over 70 per cent of their butter sold as Land O' Lakes. This organization has been influential in improving the quality of butter but it is difficult to say just how much more the farmers have received for it. In being able to sell their butter under a brand, opportunity has been given to advertise it which has assisted in enlarging its market. Through organization they have directed butter to markets that would pay a higher price and have prevented an oversupply in any one of the primary markets. They have improved the method of distributing and selling butter which has undoubtedly raised the price of all butter....Large and efficiently operated creameries outside this organization have profited and have been able to secure better returns for their patrons because of the work of the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc. Because these creameries have profited it should not for one moment be considered that they are more efficient or that the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., is not rendering a most useful service. It is incorrect reasoning to hold that there is greater opportunity for a creamery to remain out of an organization than it is to join it. We do not expect all cooperative creameries to join the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., but we do believe it is better for cooperative creameries to join this organization than for Wisconsin or Iowa to form similar organizations and in this way create unnecessary



competition. It is of tremendous advantage to the butter industry to have a large volume of butter marketed cooperatively. Grading butter, selling it under a brand, preventing gluts in any one market, the improvement of quality, the storage of surplus during the peak of production, and many other things which can be done collectively are most valuable and helpful in securing good prices for butter. To measure the value of an institution wholly by price is to overlook the fundamentals in cooperative marketing. We look forward to the time when a sufficient number of cooperative creameries have joined the Land O' Lakes Creameries, Inc., so that when a shipload of butter comes in from foreign nations the entire lot can be purchased. Invariably the butter market declines from 3 to 5 cents a pound when a report is circulated that a shipload of butter is on its way to this country. It may not carry enough butter to last New York City 24 hours, yet depressing the price of butter for three or four days or more often costs the dairy industry thousands of dollars and the consumer receives no benefit by lower prices....."

Canadian Tobacco Experienced tobacco growers from Kentucky are developing what Farm promises to be the largest tobacco farm in Canada, according to the Canadian Government Information Bureau. The farm is located on St. Ann's Island, near Chatham, Ontario. This island, formerly an Indian reserve, has never been cultivated. It has an area of 2,800 acres and the soil and general conditions are suited for growing high grade tobacco. Work began on the island last May when H.B. Archibald of Madisonville, Ky., an experienced tobacco farmer arrived there with eighty experienced helpers. This year there are 350 acres on the island under tobacco. Next year 1,000 acres will be planted to different grades. Seven large barns have been built and a curing plant is being erected in Wallaceburg, a near-by town.

Cotton Utilization In an article entitled "A Reformation in Sheets," Commerce and Finance for September 7 says: "....That the demand for sheets and pillow cases has been increasing in recent years is indicated from the latest available census of manufactures. This shows an increased production from 21 million square yards in 1921 to more than 41 million square yards in 1925, or in other words an increase of more than 93 per cent. In June, the Division of Simplified Practice of the Department of Commerce invited representatives of manufacturers, distributors, and consumers of institutional textiles to a conference in Washington. Methods of simplifying the numerous sizes of sheets, pillow slips, towels, pads, spreads, etc., which are used in hotels, hospitals, and other large institutions were discussed. One of the results of the conference was a unanimous recommendation to the groups represented that a number of sizes of sheets be reduced from the fifty which are now made to four, a reduction of 92 per cent. The conference selected the following as the approved standards: 72 x 108 inches; 63 x 108 inches; 72 x 99 inches; and 63 x 99 inches. This step toward simplification is significant for the impetus it gives to establishing the 108 inch length as the standard. This is a goal which many consumers as well as manufacturers would like to attain. Although there appear to be practical considerations which may retard the acceptance of the 108 inch standard by large users, they are ready to concede its advantages. This recognition will go far in demonstrating to individual purchasers the desirability and superiority of large sheets....

September 12, 1927.

Teachers and students of home economics not only indorse the movement to standardize sheets in the larger sizes but are asking if this standardization may not be extended to include specifications of technical construction."

Hoover On Flood Relief A Baton Rouge, La., dispatch to the press of September 10 says: "A great problem involving the destitution of thousands of people, the financing of a vast number of farmers in the year that is ahead, the financial stability of the flooded parishes and adequate flood control, still confronts the people of the flooded areas. Two-thirds of the agricultural lands in Louisiana that went under water will produce no crops this year, while 30,000 destitute men and women in this State, mainly in the Evangeline parishes, are still dependent on public charity for food, clothing and shelter. These were some of the facts disclosed Sept. 9 by Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover to a joint session of the Louisiana Legislature. Mr. Hoover arrived at Baton Rouge from Melville September 9. He came fully alive to the gravity of the problem of rehabilitating thousands who must be financed if some of the most fertile farm lands in America are to be reclaimed to agriculture. More than 1,100,000 acres of these lands were submerged, and of this vast area more than 700,000 acres are to-day a shambles of weeds, willows, wild grasses and brush. The problem affects more than 200,000 in thirty-five of the Louisiana parishes, and the situation is the same in large areas in Arkansas and Mississippi....."

Railroads as Farm Agents Ruel McDaniel writes in Nation's Business for September as follows: "This year ranchers in southern Colorado will receive about \$1,000,000 more for their beef cattle than they drew in 1923. Last year the excess was about the same. The price of cattle in that district has risen steadily since 1923. A local condition, rather than national demand, is responsible. It is the result of a new note in railroad selling. How it happens that these Colorado cattlemen are receiving an extra million dollars for their cattle is merely the outcome of the application of this new selling idea being fostered by progressive railroads, especially in the Northwest. This merchandising idea is based upon the new assumption on the part of railroads that their transportation and selling job is no longer completed when the goods are delivered on a designated siding; that their job extends to the table of the consumer. The Colorado cattle-marketing plan was the first development of this idea; others have followed.....It was not so many years ago that the rail carriers realized that their business would grow in proportion to the growth of the country they served. As a consequence they began an active campaign to build up the districts served. The average railroad to-day has, for example, a well-organized agricultural extension bureau, through which it interests farmers and ranchers in the agricultural districts the road serves....."

Wool Prices The press of September 11 reports: "Some minor auction sales of wool are still in progress in Australia, but the results are not regarded as having any particular significance. On Tuesday, however, the big sales will begin in London, and holders are hopeful that prices will show a slight advance.....A lot of wool of this year's clip is still in the possession of growers or their pools. It is being bought as needed, nobody being inclined to plunge on the chance of any serious uplift of prices. Meanwhile the mills are pretty well occupied for the most part...."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended Sept. 9: Top price on hogs at Chicago is 35¢ higher than a week ago. Better grades of fed steers continued to show price improvement with lower grades weak. Heifers, vealers and stockers and feeders were steady to 25¢ higher. Cows declined, while heavy calves and feeding lambs remained steady. Fat lambs, and yearling wethers were moderately lower. Wholesale prices on fresh western dressed meats at New York were steady on good grade steer beef and light and heavy pork loins, \$1 to \$3 higher on veal, \$3 higher on lamb and steady to \$1 lower on mutton.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes sold 10¢-35¢ higher per 100 pounds in eastern markets. Wisconsin sacked Cobblers 35¢ higher carlot sales in Chicago; steady at \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes 25¢-50¢ lower per barrel in city markets. New Jersey yellows 25¢-50¢ lower in New York City per bushel hamper. Onions slightly weaker. Midwestern yellows \$1.40-\$2 in consuming centers. Eastern Wealthy apples about steady at \$1.25-\$1.75 per bushel basket.

Butter markets have been generally firm, but now show signs of weakening somewhat. Receipts are decreasing, especially of the better grades, and with demand active supplies are firmly held. Cheese markets are still firm and prices on the Wisconsin Cheese Boards were advanced further at the meetings of September 2. Demand was fairly active and offerings firmly held.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 97 points during the week, closing at 22.78¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 88 points, closing at 23.36¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange 92 points, closing at 23.32¢.

Grain markets irregular but less favorable crop reports and good export demand at close of week strengthening factors. Wheat prices, cash and futures, declined slightly for week. Foreign markets also lower. Corn practically unchanged. Some improvement in demand. Discounts medium to lower grades narrowing. Oats steady with small receipts, little inquiry. Rye firm to higher with brisk export demand.

Hay markets holding about steady. Light receipts strengthening factor. Prices timothy and alfalfa firm but prairie somewhat easier. Crop movement interrupted by rains some sections. Shipping demand generally dull. Brick demand for green alfalfa suitable for milling. Feed market for wheat millfeeds easier. Bran prices steady but middlings declining from their relatively high level. Lower corn prices causing weaker market for hominy feed but limited supply of gluten feed holding prices of that commodity firm. Linseed meal market unchanged. Reduced supply of cottonseed meal is being reflected in a firm market for that feed. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 62

Section 1

September 13, 1927

THE PRESIDENT REJECTS SPECIAL SESSION PLAN The press to-day says: "President Coolidge will not call a special session of the Senate nor of Congress, it was indicated in official circles last night, following a conference he had yesterday with Senator Curtis, Senate leader, and Representative John Q. Tillson, House leader, both of whom reported to him that there was no strong sentiment for calling Congress together in advance of the regular December session and that no advantage could be gained by doing so. It is understood that the President will accept the suggestions given him by the party leaders and refuse to summon a special session to consider flood relief and control legislation and dispose of the contested Senate election cases from Illinois and Pennsylvania...."

NEW SHIP CANALS URGED A Baltimore dispatch to the press to-day says: "A forty-foot channel from Baltimore to the sea, a \$50,000,000 ship canal across New Jersey and a ship canal across New York State from the Hudson River at Albany to the Great Lakes are the three great projects on which the Atlantic Deeper Waterways Association must work next year, according to J. Hampton Moore, president of the association, who made his annual address before the convention at Baltimore yesterday. Development of the seaboard between the Appalachian Mountains and the coast, he said, depended upon inland waterways, as one-half of the land in that vast territory is now entirely undeveloped.... Brig. Gen. Edgar Jacobin, Chief of Engineers, suggested that the shipping interests investigate the possibility of establishing motor truck lines from landings along rivers, bays and other waterways to the interior of the surrounding country."

FRENCH TARIFF RATES A Paris dispatch to the press to-day says: "Hurriedly clearing the way to expedite a settlement of the tariff difficulties causing acute distress to American traders with France, Sheldon Whitehouse, Counsellor of the American Embassy at Paris, submitted to the French foreign office yesterday the draft of an unconditional most favored nation treaty applicable as between the United States and France. Simultaneously commercial representatives of the United States renewed their requests to the French authorities to hasten a decision concerning the possibility of lowering the new French tariff rates, which daily are eliciting a growing chorus of complaint from American business men, as a temporary relief until an agreement on a treaty is reached...."

INDUSTRIAL CENTER "The center of industry in the United States slowly has moved westward during the last eighteen years, a report of the Geological Survey says. In 1908, the center was placed 110 miles east of Chicago on the northern boundary of Indiana, and ten years later it was located 60 miles east of Chicago. In 1926, the survey said it was placed 50 miles southeast of Chicago and 25 miles southwest of its 1918 position...." (Press, Sept. 13.)

September 13, 1927.

Section 2

Banana Disease A Panama, R.P., dispatch to the press of September 11 says: "The banana blight, the disease that has cost planters in the tropics millions of dollars and has laid waste thousands of acres of fertile lands, has about ruined the large plantations in the Salamanca district of Costa Rica, according to reports in San Jose newspapers received here. The exportation of fruit from this district has been reduced to only a fraction of what it was a year ago, according to an official of the Costa Rican Government just returned from an inspection of that region. 'To-day,' he explained, 'the weekly output of fruit does not exceed 8,000 stems, whereas it used to be 80,000, and within a year the last banana will have been shipped out of that portion of the country. The disease can not be checked, and it has taken terrible toll there.'...The same condition that has been reported in the Salamanca region of Costa Rica also exists on this side of the frontier in Panama, where farms have been completely abandoned. The Robalo section of Panama was the first planted in the Province of Bocas del Toro, and was a big producer of fruit thirty-five or forty years ago. To-day the deserted railroad and the rusted little locomotives and other rolling stock have stood abandoned all the years in the midst of vast fields of waving banana fronds that are worthless...."

Citrus Co-operation An editorial in Florida Times-Union for September 10 says: "Florida has gone through the usual period of 'discussion' about in Florida remedying the citrus marketing problem. With 187 different marketing bodies in the State, none of them cooperating with the other, we are up against the same old internecine struggle which has made the grower a victim so many times. Florida has the juiciest fruit that is produced. After all, it is the juice that counts, and Florida has never taken full advantage of this fact in any of its advertising or marketing....Florida's problem is not one of fruit quality; it is a marketing difficulty which can be easily remedied if we will only fight our problems out at home instead of carrying them to the arena of the market place. This summer there was a ray of hope in a get-together program from Washington. Nathan Mayo, State Commissioner of Agriculture, whom we sincerely believe wants to help the industry basically to get the high price for the grower, urged the Fruitman's Club, an organization of the largest shippers in the State, both cooperatives and independents, to accompany him to Washington. Secretary Jardine made some pertinent suggestions, all of them practical and all of them carrying the full effect of available Federal aid due to legislation already existent in the National Capital. This aid was designed for the man who raises the product and not for the fellow who sells on a commission and gets his principal revenue from that end of the game. What we need in Florida is a grower's organization, headed by a man big enough to overcome petty differences and harmonize prejudices. The Florida Citrus Exchange is far from being a failure. It has gone along for years and has accomplished real results....We don't know how the exchange would welcome another cooperative but if its directors are far-seeing men they will agree that the principle of aid to the grower is the same one they have been preaching all along. Therefore, anything that helps the grower helps the cause they espouse. Let's have a growers' organization that can take advantage of all the things California is getting."

Cotton Report A Chicago dispatch September 12 says: "A larger attendance of Reactions buyers from all parts of the country gave wholesale dealers in dry goods a larger run of orders last week, and shipments were in excess of a year ago. The advance in the price of raw cotton has strengthened values of manufactured goods and that has stimulated purchases."

A Berlin dispatch September 12 says: "Along with great activity in the home textile industry, the Bremen market on Thursday, on receipt of the American cotton crop estimate, rose very sharply. Middling cotton reached 24½ cents per pound. The general view of the German trade is that, with maintenance of these much higher prices, the prospect favors reduced German imports of American cotton during the coming season."

A London dispatch says: "The severely restricted American cotton crop comes as another blow to British trade. Even while hoping that matters are not so bad as they look, the Lancashire textile trade has been forced to modify its hopes for a revival owing to the sensational shrinkage in the American cotton crop promise, foreshadowed by last week's bureau estimate. It had been thought that the rise of several pence in prices since the previous report had fully discounted all bullish factors, but another substantial advance appears inevitable..."

Federal Conservation An editorial in The New York Times for September 12 says: "Easterners, accustomed to think of conservation of our natural resources as a policy which always had the support of the Eastern States and originally was opposed in the West, will be surprised to find a western champion expressing the fear that the East neither cares for nor understands the problem. In a speech before the Western States Taxpayers' Conference, of which he is president, former Governor Herbert J. Hagerman of New Mexico charges the easterners with indifference to the fate of conservation in the West. To this the easterner is inclined to reply that he is at any rate delighted to see that at last influential westerners are demanding even more activity on the part of the Federal Government. Mr. Hagerman, to a gathering largely in favor of turning over the Federal forests and other lands to the States, boldly made a plea for continuation of Federal control. He pointed out that not only is this essential in such projects as the Colorado River reclamation and power plan, but that in other matters, like the conservation and use of lands, State lines must be disregarded if the best interests of the people are to be served. In particular he opposed the transfer of the Federal lands to the States on the ground that they are, in the main, satisfactorily administered, and that much of the cost is borne by Washington. If they were turned over to the States, it would greatly increase the drain on the State Treasuries, and, although this would be offset in some cases by revenues from grazing and timber rights, it is doubtful if they could be as suitably cared for as they are at present....It has been said that the mistakes of the Federal Government with regard to conservation have been due to politics rather than to policy. There is no reason to believe that interference from politics would be less if the Federal lands were controlled by the States. In fact, it is no secret that one of the reasons for the agitation to that end is that the local political and business interests which wish to have easier access to the lands for purposes of exploitation would find the State authorities more amenable than the Federal Government. The policy of conservation, to be truly effective, requires the whole-hearted indorsement of the West. For the time, at least, the machinery can best be operated by the Federal Government."

Land Grant Colleges In an editorial on "Colleges Close to the Land," The New York Times for September 12 says: "...A survey of these colleges is now being made by the United States Bureau of Education under a special appropriation of \$110,000 by Congress to determine, primarily, whether they are keeping to the object for which they were established. In the original law this was stated to be 'the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the permanent pursuits and professions of life.' It will be noted that 'liberal' was put first. And it is that purpose which the President stressed in his comment. Their 'practical' training should be the best that is offered anywhere in the world. The Nation can afford nothing less. But these colleges with such a foundation should also be institutions of high cultural opportunities in the definition which the President gave of such education. It is feared that Congress was thinking only of the 'practical' aspects of their teaching when it directed the survey, but it is hoped that the Bureau of Education will be mindful of the priority given in the text of the law to 'liberal' training. This survey should be of great value not only in helping to determine the future policies of these colleges but also in advising whether this plan of cooperation between the Federal and State Governments may be profitably extended....."

Potash in Texas

A Detroit dispatch to the press of September 10 reports that at the closing session of the convention of the American Chemical Society there September 9 a paper prepared by Professors H.E.Sellards and E.P.Schoch of the University of Texas reported on the recently discovered deposits of potash minerals in Midland County, Texas. In April, 1926, they said, the Standard Potash Company of Dallas found a five-foot bed of practically pure polyhalite at a depth of 2,080 feet, the first mineable layer of potash minerals found in the West Texas and New Mexico area. A second well three miles further west, the paper said, showed an 11-foot layer 60 per cent soluble salts containing 10 per cent potassium oxide at a depth of 1,980 to 1,991 feet and a 3-foot layer of pure polyhalite at a depth of 2,172 to 2,175 feet. The latter layer corresponded to the 5-foot layer of polyhalite in the first well. The second well was bored to a depth of 2,611 feet and showed another 3-foot layer of polyhalite and a 2-foot layer of polyhalite, which latter had right above it 170 feet of a mixture of salt with about 20 per cent of polyhalite. The professors concluded by saying that drilling with Government aid might discourage private enterprise and delay the development of an American potash industry.

Tattersall on Cotton

"Important statistics relating to the world consumption of American cotton during the twelve months ended July 31 were issued in Manchester September 10 by the International Cotton Spinners' Federation. The outstanding feature and one which will have a big effect upon prices, is that according to the returns the world consumption of American cotton was 15,777,000 bales, as against 13,730,000 bales for the preceding season. This is an increase of 2,047,000 bales, but the above consumption figure is decidedly less than the estimates issued by other authorities. Secretary Hester, of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, recently estimated the world consumption of American cotton at 17,428,000 bales. Up till to-day his estimate was the only one which the cotton markets could be guided.

by and the International Spinners' figures clearly show that Hester has overestimated the consumption and that a drastic revision of the world's power to consume American cotton even when prices are at a low level has now to be made. The International Spinners' figures are distinctly bearish. If the world consumption of American cotton was only 15,777,000 bales when prices were at a very low level--in December American cotton dropped to below 7 pence a pound--it can be taken for granted that the consumption during the present season when cotton is decidedly dearer will be much less than in the preceding twelve months. Raw cotton has been forced up to the present high level chiefly because everybody believed that world consumption of cotton during 1926-27 was nearly 17,500,000 bales. The world carry-over of lint cotton from the previous season should now be estimated at about 8,300,000 bales and with the present crop totaling to even as low as 13,000,000 bales there will be an available supply of over 21,000,000 bales...." (Press, Sept. 12.)

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 12; Grain prices quoted. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.32; Kansas City \$1.33 to \$1.35. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.32. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.33; Kansas City \$1.26 to \$1.43. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 9½¢; Kansas City 89 to 9½¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 94 to 96¢; Kansas City 88 to 89¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 97 to 99¢; Kansas City 94 to 96¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 95 to 97¢; Kansas City 92 to 94¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 88 to 89¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 45 to 47¢; Kansas City 46¢ to 48¢.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 45¢; Chicago 44¢; Philadelphia 46¢; Boston 45¢.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12.05 or 55¢ higher compared with a week ago. Better grades of steers were moderately higher, other kinds showing some unevenness. The stock was mostly 20¢ to 50¢ lower, heavy calves remained steady, while vealers and stockers and feeders showed some price improvement. Fat lambs and sheep scored moderate price upturns.

Potatoes ranged 20¢ to 50¢ higher. New Jersey sacked Cobblers \$2.15 to \$2.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$2 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60 to \$1.70 f.o.b. Waupaca. Onions around 25¢ to 50¢ lower. New York and midwestern yellow varieties mostly \$1.65 to \$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.50 to \$1.60 f.o.b. Rochester, New York. New York Domestic type cabbage firm at \$14 to \$25 bulk per ton in city markets; \$9 to \$10 f.o.b. Rochester. Colorado Salmon Tint cantaloupes about steady at 50¢ to 85¢ per standard flat in leading city markets.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 76 points, closing at 21.29¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 86 points, closing at 21.74¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were down 91 points, closing at 21.73¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 12, | Sept. 10, | Sept. 11, 1926 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 194.00 | 195.86 | 162.16 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 138.65 | 139.12 | 120.10 |

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 13.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 63

Section 1

September 14, 1927

FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS ON FARM SITUATION The Associated Press to-day reports: "An improvement in the agricultural condition of the country as a whole, as compared with that of a year ago, was indicated yesterday by reports from presidents of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks, at Washington for a two-day conference with the Farm Loan Board. Reports from the South foresaw an increase in the net return from cotton due to the comparatively small outlay for labor needed in harvesting this year's crop. Wheat in parts of the West, it was said, will go far toward putting the farmer on his feet, particularly in Nebraska and the Pacific Northwest. Grazing conditions in the far West were seen as particularly good, and cattle prices pronounced favorable. The reports indicated the corn shortage would be considerably offset by increased prices, with a possibility of early frosts endangering the crop of northern corn-growing sections. A renewed demand for good farm land and for farms on which the land banks have foreclosed in the last several years was reported, together with a demand for loans from the intermediate credit banks on nonperishable agricultural products held by cooperative organizations."

FRENCH TARIFF DUTIES An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Paris states that the reply of the French Government to the American protest on the tariff announces the readiness of this Government to begin immediate negotiations with the United States for a commercial agreement, and will probably suggest September 26 for the beginning of the discussions. The report says: "The foreign office sent word to the American Embassy that France's reply would be presented to-day. In advising the Embassy of this decision, the foreign office said it was well realized that the urgency of the question necessitated immediate treatment. The new French tariffs, which impose very high rates on certain American commodities in some cases considered prohibitive, have brought forth strenuous protests from both French and American firms, as well as an official protest from the American Government...."

GRAIN TRAFFIC "The grain movement from the Northwest is expected to reach its peak in the latter part of the current month, railroad officials in Minneapolis said yesterday. At the end of the first week in September receipts there were 31 per cent larger than at the same time last year and daily loadings by the railroads in that territory were reported to be two and one-half times as great as in the first part of September, 1926.... Cars of small grain received in Minneapolis in August and the first week in this month were 22,409 in number, as compared with 17,074 during the like period of last year." (Press, Sept. 14.)

ARGENTINE TARIFFS The press to-day states that a decision is expected soon as to whether Tariff Commission experts are to be sent to Argentina to study production costs of flaxseed and corn over the protest of the Argentine Government.

Section 2

Agricultural Education An editorial in American Fruit Grower Magazine for September says: "Even in this late day we hear some people express doubt now and then as to the value of agricultural colleges and experiment stations. Dean H. W. Mumford of the Illinois College of Agriculture gave some pertinent information on this subject in a talk made to the agricultural committee of the Chicago Association of Commerce when its members visited the University of Illinois. Impartial surveys conducted by the college show that in 1919 there were 3,000 acres of soybeans grown in Illinois; in 1921, 60,000 acres; and in 1926, 711,000 acres. In 1909, the State had 18,344 acres of alfalfa; in 1924, 221,000 acres; and in 1926, 260,000 acres. In 1924, 239,000 acres of sweet clover were grown, and in 1926, 517,000 acres. During these same years the college was encouraging more extensive planting of these crops. Undoubtedly, the increase in acreage of these legumes has been an important factor in improving the soils of the State and in helping agriculture in various ways. And yet this work constituted only one small item in the complete program of the college! Can anyone doubt the value of agricultural colleges and experiment stations to a State and its communities?"

Compulsory Cooperative Marketing An editorial in American Fruit Grower for September says: "One particular difficulty attending all attempts at cooperative marketing lies in the attitude of the minority who decline to join. Bearing no share of the expense of the organization, they share in the advantages resulting from it. In a number of instances agricultural cooperative associations have gone to the wall largely as the result of the uncontrollable practices of nonmembers. In Queensland, Australia, legislation has been enacted that amounts to compulsory cooperative marketing. Whenever 75 per cent of the growers of a fruit unite by contract in a cooperative marketing association, the remaining 25 per cent of the growers are compelled to market their produce through the cooperative association whether they elect to join or not. The thing is new and we have no information as to how it is working."

County Fairs An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 3 says: "An exhibition of the products of flocks and fields is an outstanding incentive to better farming and greater prosperity. Competition increases higher merit and better production, and is rewarded by additional profit.....A properly conducted county or community fair is an educational enterprise where diversified and valuable information is disseminated. It is an investment by the people of the community for a specific purpose. It serves to bring together all the people of the county or community, where everyone has common interest, where new friends are made and old friends are met, and everybody has a good time. People in adjoining communities will visit the fair to learn what is being done, not just along agricultural lines, but there one can tell pretty well about the progress of other activities. The keynotes of county and community fairs should be 'standardization' and 'cooperation.'"

Immigration Results An editorial in The Washington Post for September 13 says: "A measure of the effect of restricted immigration may be obtained from figures just made public by the National Industrial Conference. In the three-year period since the United States put an end to the general admission of aliens, more than 45 per cent of those who have

gained entry have been English-speaking. The only gain of any proportions shown by a foreign element has been among Mexicans, who do not fall within the quota classifications that apply to the natives of lands overseas. The increase in English-speaking immigrants resulted, not from an influx of natives of Great Britain and Ireland, but because of a heavy movement from Canada and Newfoundland. There was an actual falling off in the number of arrivals from the 'old country.' There have been, of course, decided decreases in the number of immigrants from countries against which the quota regulations applied most drastically. The number of Italians returning to their native lands in the past three years exceeds the number of such aliens that have been admitted. The same condition applies to Bulgarians, Greeks, Chinese, Japanese, Roumanians, Turks and West Indians...."

Milkweed Utilization An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for September 3 says: "An Iowa chemist, Doctor Gerhart, is making a plea for milkweed. He finds that this much despised plant has many promising virtues. And what he says should occasion a careful study of the plant to learn if the possibilities he suggests may not be realized in a practical way. In the first place, this chemist states that the milk from this weed corresponds closely to that of the rubber plant, and it may in the future, prove a domestic source of this valuable product. According to his tests, the milkweed will produce, in the wild state, from two and one-half to three per cent of rubber. Further, an acre of the weed will produce around 550 pounds of cotton floss. A superior quality of upholstery can be made from this floss. At the same time the blossom is producing the floss, the stem of the plant is growing a fiber of high tensile strength. This chemist states that it would make an excellent substitute for hemp. The fiber of the plant also produces an excellent quality of paper and wallboard. In producing wallboard, eighty-eight per cent of the plant was used. Another product is the seeds. From fifty-five to sixty bushels could be harvested from an acre. These seeds contain about twenty per cent of oil and from thirty-five to forty per cent protein. The oil compares in quality with cottonseed oil, and the protein should make an excellent stock feed. This persistent plant, which all these years has been a liability to agriculture, may some time be placed on the other side of the ledger. Extensive research should be made promptly along the lines of the pioneer work by Doctor Gerhart....."

"Orderly Marketing" J.W.Jones is the author of a comprehensive article entitled "Possibilities and Limitations of Cooperative Marketing" in The Cooperative Marketing Journal for September. Of the much-abused term "orderly marketing," he says: "So much has been claimed for cooperative marketing by means of 'orderly marketing' that it may be well to examine this phrase. It sounds good. Certainly orderly marketing is much preferable to disorderly marketing. I think its origin was good, but it has been used to cover some as disorderly marketing as we could find. Orderly marketing of perishables means better distribution of shipments so that all points obtain an equal satisfaction of demand. Forty cars of melons in one town would probably break the market price, when a better distribution would give a better price. But if there are so many melons that every town has a superfluity no amount of routing and reshipping will hold up the price. But orderly marketing of perishables and special crops produced in a limited area may be said to mean the widest and best possible distribution. For

27

27 27 27

27

A. T. (2)

staple crops it has an entirely different meaning. I shall say little about the past use of the term and the practices attempted in absolute confidence that the previous uses of the term were based on true and correct assumptions. Suffice it to say that 'orderly marketing' of staples now means marketing or selling on the basis of all the knowledge and expert judgment of conditions of supply and demand that it is possible for cooperatives to obtain. Unbiased statisticians and price-forecasters are now being employed by cooperatives, and as these develop technique and win the confidence of boards of directors sales managers can act on the basis of a knowledge of facts impartially presented instead of on opinions or hopes, maybe based on theories born of prejudice and conceived in very limited knowledge."

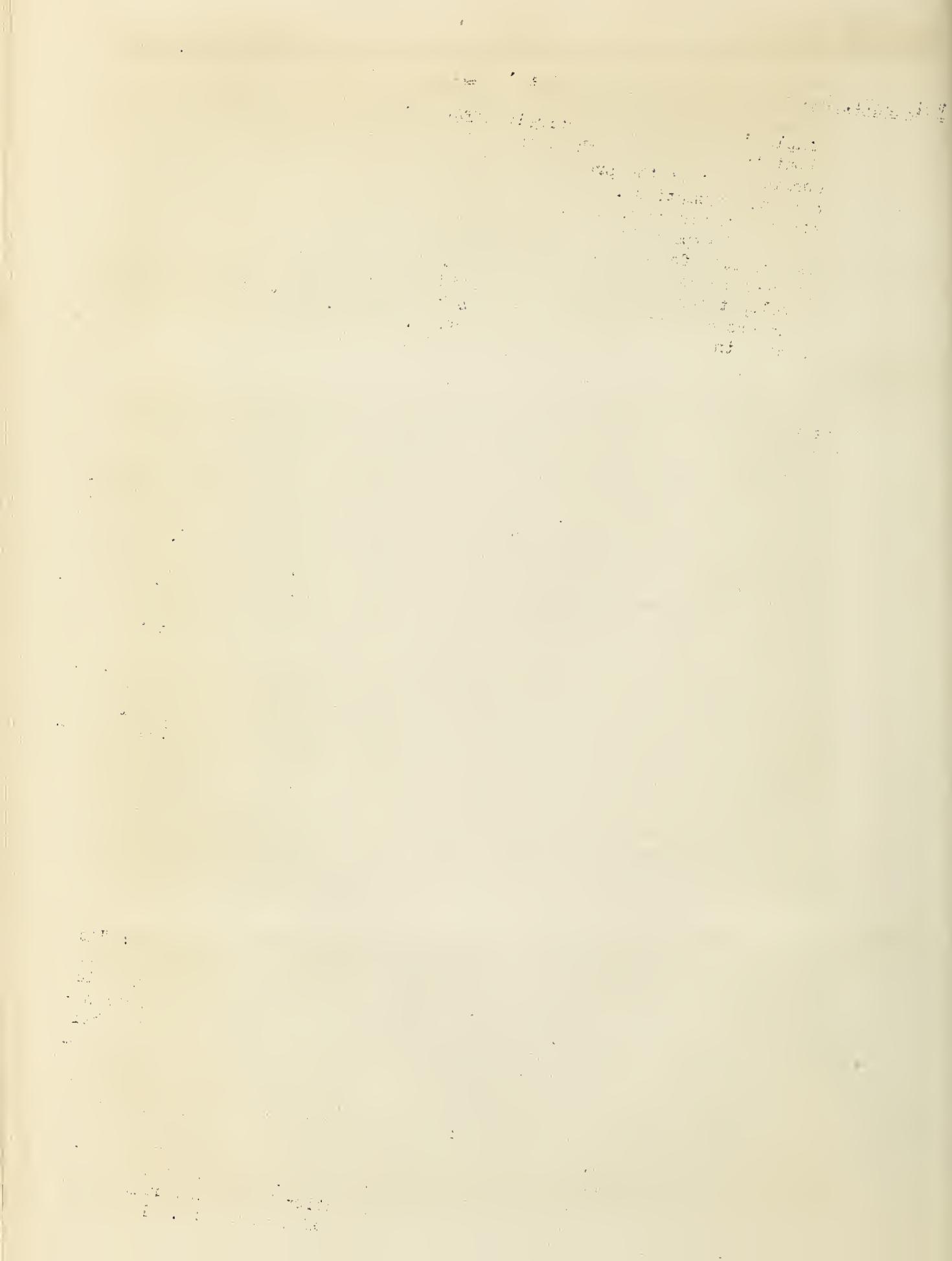
Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 9 says: "Gnats seem to be the favorite game of those who are out looking for Federal expenditures to cut down. Bigger game apparently might prove obstreperous when annoyed by hunters. The motto is 'safety first' for the hunter, rather than benefits for the taxpayer. In a recent article in The Nation's Business, a contributor recounts with horror the increases in the expenditures of the Department of Agriculture and tells how 'these things have helped pile levy upon levy upon the back of the American taxpayer.' It may be well to note just what percentage of the American taxpayer's load is contributed by the Department of Agriculture. After excluding road building funds, which have nothing to do with the department's farm activities, we find that the total expenditures of the Department of Agriculture amount to a little less than 2 per cent of the total expenditures of the Federal Government. It might be noted also that these expenditures are only 10 per cent of the annual customs receipts, and that the customs receipts, multiplied several times, come eventually out of the pockets of the classes, including the farmers, unprotected by the tariff. Everybody approves of economy in the national expenditures. If the Department of Agriculture can save some money, that fact ought to be pointed out. Yet from the point of view of the Nation as a whole, the important thing in tax reduction is to start to work on the expenditures that make up 98 per cent of the cost of Federal Government. Even if the costs of the Department of Agriculture were cut in two, the average Federal taxpayer wouldn't know it."

2

An editorial in The Idaho Farmer for September 8 says: "According to an official statement from the Federal Department of Agriculture the organized campaign against the European corn borer in the Middle Western and North Central States has resulted in the destruction 'of more than 95 per cent' of the insects, the figures of course being given as an estimate rather than as a positive fact....In point of the measure of success attained the campaign is said not to have a counterpart in the history of American agriculture. The recent sudden invasion by the corn borer was startling and alarming to farmers in all parts of the country, because it soon became evident that if not checked the pest would spread into every section where farm crops are grown. There is cause for general rejoicing in the capable and effective manner in which the work of defense and extermination has been carried on to date under the leadership of the Department of Agriculture. In it, too,



there is a lesson. It supplies additional proof that 'a stitch in time saves nine' and it only goes to show what can be accomplished by prompt, aggressive, determined and intelligently directed action toward any worthy end."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 13: Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12.10. Prices on other classes of livestock are as follows: Beef steers choice \$14.50 to \$15.35; heifers, good and choice \$8.25 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; low cutter and cutter \$4.40 to \$5.15; vealers, medium to choice \$12 to \$16; heavy calves, medium to choice \$7 to \$10; stockers and feeders, common to choice \$6.50 to \$10.25; fat lambs, good to choice \$12.75 to \$14; yearling wethers, medium to choice \$8.50 to \$11.75; fat ewes, medium to choice \$3.50 to \$6.35; feeding lambs, medium to choice \$12 to \$14.15.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged \$2.10 to \$2.85 per 100 pounds in eastern markets; \$2.15 to \$2.25 f.o.b. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.80 to \$2 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.60 to \$1.65 f.o.b. Waupaca. Eastern Wealthy apples \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel basket in eastern cities; top of \$2.25 in New York City. New York Domestic type cabbage brought \$14 to \$20 bulk per ton in leading eastern markets. Best eastern and midwestern yellow onions ranged \$1.50 to \$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Eastern Elberta peaches generally \$1.50 to \$2.25 per bushel basket in city markets.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 13: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.27 to \$1.39. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.30 to \$1.31. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.28 to \$1.29. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29 to \$1.30. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 92¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 89 to 92¢; Minneapolis 86 to 87¢; No.2 yellow corn Chicago 95¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 93 to 95¢; Minneapolis 90 to 91¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 45 to 47¢; Minneapolis 42 to 44¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 10 points, closing at 21.39¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points, closing at 21.88¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points, closing at 21.87¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 13, | Sept. 12, | Sept. 13, 1926 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 20 Industrials | 196.81 | 194.00 | | 158.97 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 140.33 | 138.65 | | 119.98 |
| (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 14.) | | | | |

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 64

Section 1

September 15, 1927.

ARGENTINE TARIFF DUTIES The Associated Press to-day says: "Perplexities besetting American tariff affairs were added to yesterday when, because of resentment in Argentina, the Tariff Commission abandoned plans to send a committee to that country to investigate the cost of producing flaxseed and corn in the South American Republic...."

FRENCH TARIFFS An Associated Press dispatch from Paris to-day says: "Whether the American Government desires to enter upon commercial treaty negotiations in a spirit of reciprocity, offering to give when it seeks to receive, is understood to be the question that the French Government will put in its reply on the tariff questions to-day....The tariff reply, which the French Government informed the United States Embassy yesterday would not be ready until to-day, is described as stating also rather fully the French position as to general tariff policy in commercial treaties in force under that policy. It is expected the reply will declare the principles which from the French Government's standpoint should control and guide in the making of all commercial arrangements...."

COTTON CONSUMPTION The New York Times to-day reports: "Taking the stand that there is no ground for the controversy in which Secretary Hester of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange has been accused of overstating cotton consumption, J. L. Julian, a member of the New York Cotton Exchange firm of Fenner & Beane, said yesterday that Mr. Hester had come within 2,000 bales of the actual figures in his advance estimates of cotton consumption in 1927. The controversy was provoked by the figures of Arnold S. Pearse, secretary of the International Federation of Spinners, who estimated consumption at 15,777,000 bales, whereas Mr. Hester placed it at 17,428,000 bales. 'If one were to take the International Federation figures of consumption of 15,777,000 bales,' Mr. Julian said, 'it would indicate that the cotton market had been advancing altogether out of line, for a consumption of that size would be considerably less than had been expected, because Mr. Hester had predicted a consumption of 17,428,-000 bales....'"

WORLD FOOD SUPPLY An editorial in The Washington Post to-day says: "Under the direction of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, a world agricultural census will be taken in 1930. Leon M. Estabrook, former chairman of the United States Crop Reporting Board, is director of the project....Few needs are of importance equal to that of food, yet the world has no idea what its actual food supply is, or what its potential food resources may be. Nevertheless, only several weeks ago, learned delegates to a world population conference in Geneva gravely asserted that the world could feed not more than 5,000,000,000 people, a population figure which will be reached, if present growth continues, in about 100 years. Possibly, after stock is taken in 1930, a more pleasant picture can be presented."

Section 2

Cuban Sugar An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for September 14 says: "After two years of self-imposed restriction of the size of the sugar crop, Cuba is now approximately where she started--faced with over-production. Early restriction measures, temporary only and designed to meet an unusual situation, helped to raise the price of sugar from a low of 1.94 cents a pound in 1925 to around 3 cents to-day. But despite this advance, Cuba's dollar income is only slightly larger than before because of lessened volume production. The island is in serious economic plight and another year of low sugar prices might well bring financial chaos. Before considering the proposed remedy, the facts must be understood. Charity for Cuba has not guided the policies of other sugar producing countries. None has voluntarily reduced its crop, several have increased production materially. And so Cuba's sacrifice of some 500,000 tons of her own crop has been overshadowed by a 700,000 ton increase by Europe alone. Cuba approaches the 1928 grinding season with the threat of world overproduction and consequent low prices. To meet the exigency she has sent delegates to other producing countries in an effort to secure cooperation in preventing oversupply. Perhaps the outcome will be akin to the Brussels Convention of 1902. That ended a bounty system in Europe which had raised the price of sugar to consumers, through taxes, and had given false stimulus to beet growing in many countries. Cuba's cooperation move is sound and in the right direction, even though practical results do not materialize for a few years. But Cuba is proposing another step, fraught with dangers to herself and to every cent invested in her enormous sugar industry. This proposal would make Cuba's president virtual czar over 20 per cent of the world's sugar supply. It would give him power to determine how much sugar should be ground in Cuba, how much shipped to the United States and other countries. His decisions would be based on estimates given him by a commission of his own appointment. The plan would give him power to create an export corporation with control over the sale of sugar to foreign countries, exclusive of the United States. Both his commission and the export corporation would be permanent bodies, controlled by a veto...."

Egg Grading An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 9 says: "According to some of the reports we hear, the dream of the amateur poultryman who figured out how many chickens he would get from a start of a dozen hens and a rooster, and found that within a few years he would have the earth covered three feet deep with eggs, seems to be coming true to a degree in some parts of the country. Many folks have gone in for poultry pretty heavily and the total production has increased considerably. It seems to be up to the poultryman to figure out some way to persuade the consumer to use more eggs and more chickens than he usually does or else take for a little while at least a somewhat reduced price. A cheering word on the possibilities of increased consumption comes from Canada, where they have had a compulsory egg grading law for some years. Since it went into effect, the consumption of eggs in Canada has increased from 16.8 dozen yearly per person to 28.1 dozen last year. During a similar period the consumption of eggs in the United States increased from 15.2 dozen per head per year to 17 dozen. Apparently the only reason for the difference is the standards of grading in the two countries. In Canada when anyone goes

September 15, 1927.

to a store and asks for an egg fit to boil, that's what he gets...Iowa has a new egg grading law. It is not compulsory, nor do all buyers of eggs buy on these grades, but if any grades are used by either dealer or buyer, the official ones must be used. It will pay the poultry producers of the State to do what they can to see that an increasingly large per cent of their product is handled on a graded basis. Our guess is that this won't come until we have some cooperative egg marketing associations like those in Minnesota and in Missouri. The Canadian experience proves, however, that whenever our poultrymen want to get down to business in this field, they can sell a lot more eggs than they have ever so far produced, even in a boom season like the present one."

Farm Prosperity The New York Times September 11 says: "William H. McNeal, vice president of the New York Title and Mortgage Company, on his departure for the conference of the Farm Mortgage Bankers' Association in Denver, said that the increased prices for farm products this year should add more than \$2,000,000,000 to the income of the farmer. 'With a large output reported for all crops except cotton and corn, and high prices prevailing for the last two products, the year should very greatly increase the prosperity of the farmer,' he said. 'This will mean the liquidation of bank loans, activity in real estate and the purchasing of supplies in larger volume. In view of the fact that the farmer purchases about 10 per cent of the products manufactured, this increase in his purchasing power is of great significance to the manufacturer.'"

German Herd Improvement The Field (London) for September 1 says: "Germany's herds and flocks suffered very severely during the war, many of the best breeding animals being sacrificed to supply food, but with the energy characteristic of the Germans, no time has been wasted in building up the stock-breeding industry again. The announcement is made that a small party of pedigree stock-breeders from Britain are to pay a visit to Germany during the second half of this month with the purpose of interesting German breeders in the merits of British stock. Germany is already a considerable buyer of pedigree stock, and it is hoped that personal contact and exchange of views with some of our representative stock-breeders will stimulate the trade. It is certainly most desirable to foster the export trade to the Continent while many other markets are closed to our stock because of the occasional outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in this country. The Continent is not so particular about foot and mouth disease, as we know to our cost, and it is a market well worth cultivating...."

Highway Accident Prevention The press of September 11 reports: "Prizes aggregating \$1,000 were offered by the American Road Builders' Association September 10 for the best suggestions for reducing the annual number of highway accidents. The contest will close at midnight, November 15. More than 114,000 persons have been killed and nearly 3,500,000 injured during the past five years through highway accidents, the association announced in defining the need for a national safety campaign. Last year 25,302 were killed and 759,060 injured, the economic loss resulting from such accidents being \$638,875,500. The figures have been mounting steadily for five years. The first prize in the contest is \$500, and there are nine others, totaling \$500. The awards are offered for 'the best workable plan that will decrease street and highway accidents,'...."

Irish Agriculture An editorial in The Farmers' Gazette (Dublin) for August 27 says: "....State servants always play for safety, and there is much to commend this course. On the other hand, the farmers of a country such as ours, who have to struggle hard to make ends meet, are not well served if they only learn of opportunities so late that the time for taking advantage of them has gone past and they have been supplanted by rivals in the field. Without asking too much from the State, some better means could be devised of enabling agriculturists to take advantage of favorable situations as they develop. Farmers themselves can and must contribute a great deal towards their own betterment. Enterprise is wanted. Enterprise is the explanation of successful business. It is no use arriving there 'the day after the fair,' and the very conservatism of the farmer while acting so often for his security frequently tends nowadays to his being 'left in the lurch.' Much more of the business spirit is wanted. 'The farmer's business is to grow produce and it requires a business man to dispose of it to advantage.' This was the view expressed recently by a South African fruit grower who has been studying conditions in England. We have our business experts in ample numbers in Ireland, but all too frequently the distrust exhibited between them and the farmers operates to the detriment of both parties. A better understanding of each others' difficulties should on the one hand enable the farmer to estimate prospects earlier and change his system to meet requirements, and on the other hand permit the business man to keep his customers and maintain trade by being in position to guarantee supplies of the produce asked for in the market. In coming together to examine conditions in respect of pork, bacon and other farm produce or livestock all those genuinely interested in production and business disposal serve their own and the national interest. If we can not afford here to examine through State agencies all the market conditions governing our many products, farmers and agents and others interested, by regular conferences can do a great deal to conserve their existing interest and expand trade to everybody's advantage....Small as we may be in relation to other territories, Ireland and her farmers have still a sphere of usefulness and it only needs a little more enterprise to enable us to take our place in the general progress."

Wild Flower Vandalism The Florists Exchange for September 10 quotes the following editorial from the Cleveland Leader: "We talk about preserving our wild flowers, and two or three States actually enact laws for the protection of certain imperiled species, but for all this the vandals, the devastator and the selfish despoiler do pretty much as they please in our land of freedom. On the other side of the earth is another land of freedom, and in Australia the extinguisher is being put on vandalism with a wholesome and edifying effectiveness. The 'Protection of Wild Flowers Act' recently passed by the Australian Parliament is going to be enforced in every detail. It is made unlawful to offer wild flowers for sale in any public place, or to possess them on any public conveyance. Police and rangers are empowered to arrest all violators, but it is not expected that actual arrest and punishment will be the most effective measures. The emphatic object lesson of confiscation of wild flowers on trains and trolley cars will be distinctly educational, as will the strict enforcement of the provision against public sale. Australia really means business. The Commonwealth has many species which are found nowhere else in the world, and which have been in actual

danger of extinction. Instead of gently tapping the hardboiled vandal on the shoulder and saying 'please, mister,' to him the Australian law grabs him roughly and delivers a hearty kick. Some day, perhaps, we will try this enlightened method in dealing with our own flower killers. May the day come before the flowers are all killed!"

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 14: New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes 15¢ to 35¢ higher at \$2.15 to \$2.65 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$2.15 to \$2.25 f.o.b. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites sold about 10¢ lower at \$1.80 to \$1.90 carlot sales in Chicago but held firm at \$1.55 to \$1.75 f.o.b. Waupaca. Sweet potatoes unsettled. New Jersey yellow varieties \$1.25 per bushel hamper in New York City. New York domestic type cabbage firm at \$15 to \$25 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$9 to \$10 f.o.b. Rochester. Eastern Wealthy apples firm at \$1.25 to \$2 per bushel basket in city markets. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50 per barrel in Chicago.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12.15 or 75¢ higher compared with a week ago. Fed steers continued to show price improvement. Sheep stock registered unevenness, vealers scored a moderate advance, and heavy calves and stockers and feeders remained steady. Fat lambs and yearling wethers were sharply higher, while fat ewes and feeding lambs advanced moderately.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 46¢; Chicago 45¢; Philadelphia 47¢; Boston 46¢.

Grain prices quoted September 14: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.29 to \$1.45. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.30; Kansas City \$1.35. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.29. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.30; Kansas City \$1.27. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 96¢; Kansas City 90¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 94¢; Minneapolis 87¢; Kansas City 88¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 97¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 95¢; Minneapolis 91¢; Kansas City 93¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 88¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 46¢; Minneapolis 43¢; Kansas City 47¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 44 points, closing at 21.83¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 47 points, closing at 22.35¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were up 42 points, closing at 22.29¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 14, | Sept. 13, | Sept. 14, 1926 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 198.00 | 196.81 | 160.57 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 140.25 | 140.33 | 120.96 |
| (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 15.) | | | | - - - |

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 65

Section 1

September 16, 1927.

FRENCH TARIFF
SITUATION

The Associated Press to-day says: "Rejection by France of American proposals for a most-favored-nation commercial treaty to correct French tariff discriminations against American goods brought the two governments to the verge of an open clash yesterday that, in the opinion of some officials, might develop into a tariff war. While the French communication declining the offer was not made public, it was said authoritatively at the State Department that there will be little delay in formulating the American answer, as the tariff act forbids the negotiation of treaties as to tariffs on any basis but that of equal treatment for all nations. This limitation upon the powers of the President preventing acceptance of the French counter proposals undoubtedly will be brought out sharply in the reply...."

LONGWORTH ON
FARM RELIEF

The press to-day reports: "Farm relief and formulation of an adequate naval program will be among the vital legislative issues in the coming session of Congress, Speaker Longworth declared yesterday after a conference with President Coolidge on the legislative program....'Perhaps the most important problems before the next Congress will be farm relief, railroad consolidation and authorization of a naval program to place the American Navy on a 5-5-3 parity with England and Japan,' he said...."

BORAH URGES
ONION TARIFF

The press to-day says: "Increased tariffs on onions to protect American producers, especially from the products of Spain and Egypt, were urged upon President Coolidge yesterday by Senator Borah. An investigation into the differences in the cost of production has been made by the tariff committee, which is expected to submit its report to the President in the near future. Senator Borah said after leaving the White House that producers in his and in other States were vitally interested in this subject."

HOOVER ON FLOOD
SITUATION

According to the press to-day, Secretary Hoover reported to President Coolidge yesterday upon his return from a resurvey of the Mississippi Valley situation that funds for immediate needs were available until Jan. 1, with a probable surplus of \$1,000,000 at that time....Mr. Hoover favors two spillways and believes tributaries to the Mississippi which are not navigable should be subject to control in order to prevent overflows of the levees....He said: 'Owing to the second flood and other causes probably 2,000,000 acres of crop land will make no substantial money returns this year. An organization has been initiated to secure coordinated action between mortgage holders, local banks and the emergency finance corporations to assure the financial support of the farmers who have lost this year's crop to plant and mature the 1918 crop....'"

Section 2

Agriculture C. R. Berrien, vice president of the Union Trust Company of and Business New York, is quoted in Commerce and Finance for September 14 as saying: "One of the reasons for our opinion that American business is not headed toward a period of prolonged depression is that we have been insuring ourselves against precisely such a period by making adjustment after adjustment to depressing circumstances, depressing conditions and depressing factors in the last few years....The statistics of our business mortality both in number of failures and in aggregate of liabilities have in the last three years kept a very high level, showing further processes of elimination. A large part of our farming industry has had a rather hard time in most of the years of the present decade and because of the vital relation of agricultural prosperity to our general prosperity a point of more than incidental importance in its bearing on our economic outlook is worth emphasizing briefly but heavily. The skies seem to be brightening for American agriculture. An impressive effort is being engaged in improving the conditions of the agricultural industry which gives more than fair promise of becoming effective. There is ground for thinking that our farming has made a turn for the better, and in our economic history such a turn in agriculture after years of adversity has often marked the turning point into a long period of prosperous general business activity."

Alabama's
"Master
Farmers"

P. O. Davis, Auburn, Ala., writing in Manufacturers Record for September 15, says: "For the first time, outstanding merit in farming in Alabama has been officially recognized by the College of Agriculture, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, and the Progressive Farmer, a farm magazine published in Birmingham. Formal recognition of the 'ten best farmers in Alabama' was given at a banquet at Auburn, during the State summer school for farm people. Representatives of big industrial corporations and of banks in Birmingham and Montgomery and elsewhere came to Auburn to take part in the exercises and to rejoice with those who had assembled to 'do honor to those who till the soil.' It was a new idea for Alabama and for the Southeast, although Texas and several agricultural States in the Middle West have been honoring farmers this way for two years. Each of the ten was awarded a certificate of 'Master Farmer,' signed by officials of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. The Progressive Farmer presented a medal to each. The farmers receiving the awards were: John R. Witt, Belle Mina; J.B.H. Lumpkin, Albertville; J.J. Boyd, Hackleburg; L.C. Young, Montgomery; Henry King, Selma; Emil Graf, Mobile; B.H. Lightfoot, Troy; Webb Hurst, Shorter; J.W. Hathorn, Dothan, and R.E. Lambert, Darlington. The event was hailed as a 'new day' for Alabama agriculture. Leaders declared that, although only ten were allowed to receive this honor in one year, thousands will be inspired by it. Annually, ten more will receive this honor....."

Dairy Industry An editorial in Ohio Stockman and Farmer for September 17 says: "At different periods during the past forty years we have heard the alarmist foretell the ruin of the dairy industry. Oleomargarine was going to 'bust' it at one time, vegetable oils at another, while now and then chemistry appeared as a producer of the commodities furnished by the cow. And now, after all the prophecies of evil, we find the dairy business bigger than ever and in better condition than ever. The old cow goes right on, and one cow is worth about as much as five were worth back in the nineties. The annual exposition of this great

industry is held in the South for the first time this year, at Memphis, October 15-22, and thousands of northern dairymen are going to drive their automobiles down and take a look at it."

Dairy Products An editorial in Chicago Dairy Produce for September 13 says: "There is no disputing the statement that our best safeguard for the dairy industry lies in the improvement of the methods we employ, which include better cows, and more economical production, and increasing our home consumption of dairy products. We have an agency that is doing wonderfully well in increasing milk consumption, and an important work in bringing about a larger consumption of butter. Greater support of the National Dairy Council would produce still greater results in milk consumption, and the same agency could accomplish like results in butter consumption if the butter interests would get together and proceed on the program that has been under consideration for some time.We are not in need of more cows but we need better cows that receive better care, and we need more economical production. Profit in dairying lies in reducing costs of production as well as in a wider use of not only milk and butter, but cheese and all the other products of milk. It is in the general recognition of this need that we find an absence of criticism of the proposed increase in the Government appropriation for dairy research. We call ourselves advanced in dairying and we are, but there is still an immense field for study....We have a lot to learn about milk and butter, the products of the dairy with which we are the best acquainted. Factors that affect consumption still present a wide field for study. We have gone farther into problems of production of dairy products than we have into consumption, and the two must be brought into line to preserve the balance for good business in these products."

Middleman Profits An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for September 9 says: "We still sometimes hear the statement that if the farmer could get the profit that goes to some particular middleman, he would be well on the road to wealth. Recent investigations show that he would in fact have gone only a step or two on that arduous journey. The individual middleman apparently gets a very small profit and sometimes none at all. It is the fact that there are a dozen middlemen strung along in the marketing process, each of them taking expenses and a little profit out of the goods he handles, that brings up the cost. A recent study by the New York College of Agriculture into the wholesale fruit and vegetable business in New York City indicates that out of every dollar's worth of produce handled, 9.5 cents was divided between the grocer and the railroads. Most of the 9.5 cents margin went to labor. Less than 1 cent represented profits....It is interesting to note that the truck drivers of New York were paid \$53 a week last year, as compared with \$17 a week in 1914, and that labor on the whole now averages two and a half times what it did in 1914. In so far as fruit and vegetables are unjustifiably high in New York City, it would seem to be the fault of the transportation rates and high wages of labor and the wastage of the present system of selling such products. Researches by the Harvard School of Business into wholesale groceries, dry goods and drugs, indicate that on the average most wholesale business makes only about one cent of profit out of each dollar's worth of goods handled. The profits of the retailers may be a little greater, but not so very much. If the profits of the middlemen were completely done away with,

it seems doubtful if prices of farm products could be raised by as much as 10 per cent. The only way in which profits can come to the farmer through reform in the distributing system is not by eliminating the profits of the middlemen, but by eliminating some of the middlemen themselves and by straightening out some of the kinks in the route by which the product goes from grower to consumer...."

Pig Breeding The Field (London) for September 1 says: "....Now that milk recording has become firmly established in the routine of the dairy farmer, there are readily available facts and figures that prove beyond question the worth of any particular animal in the herd, and it is equally desirable that authentic information should be available about the fecundity, rapidity of growth and general economy of the different pig types and families in this country. Scandinavia has for some time past run pig-testing stations, where official records are made of the commercial worth of the different strains, and America is following suit. These are the keenest competitors of the British farmer in the bacon market, and it is very necessary that he, too, should have the advantage of breeding from pigs of proved worth. All critics agree that the British farmer is not producing the right type of pig, at any rate not sufficient of the right type, but until some far more marked commercial incentive is offered by the bacon curers in higher prices for better pigs it is not likely that farmers will make a change. It is, we think, mainly a business matter between farmers and curers, but a start in the right direction has been made by several breed societies who are planning to record the rate of fecundity and rate of growth of their pigs. The Ministry of Agriculture has for some time been considering the practicability of running pig-breeding centers and pig-recording societies to bring the pigs of this country more into line with the commercial demand of the day. It is much to be hoped that these plans will materialize, so that lack of knowledge may no longer be a handicap to the British producer in his fight with the pig-raisers of the Continent and America."

Rubber Production "One of the most important results of a recently completed scientific rubber investigation is that relating to the development of a method whereby the future qualities of a tree may be ascertained while the plant is in its infant stages, thus avoiding the necessity of waiting until the tree has reached the tappable age of about five years. According to advices transmitted to Bankers Trust Company of New York by its British information service, the London scientist who conducted the investigation expressed the opinion that bud-grafting and seed selection are of the utmost importance to the future of the rubber industry. It is believed that bud-grafting should be looked upon as an emergency measure to obtain good seeds without loss of time. Experiments were made to ascertain the best and most efficient method of planting and tapping. As a result of further experiments it was found that when a tree is grown from seed an examination of the latex would show that a certain distinguishing particle in the latex of that tree would be identical with that found in the latex of the parent tree. As a result of this discovery it would be possible to tell exactly what would be the characteristics of the tree from the time it was six or seven months old. If it was known that it would have poor bark, or that a poor yield might be expected, the

tree could be felled and thus none but the best would eventually be left and no time would be wasted on a tree which would be below average yield. The report received by Bankers Trust Company states that the scientist is of the opinion that when the details of this investigation are published, the discoveries made will go far towards a better understanding of the unique properties of rubber in general." (Press, Sept. 16.)

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 15: Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12.10, or 35¢ higher than a week ago. Beef steers showed a continued upward trend, the stock ranged from steady to 50¢ lower, and vealers advanced sharply. Heavy calves remained steady, while stocker and feeder steers ranged from steady to 25¢ higher and lambs and sheep showed price improvement.

Potato markets irregular. New Jersey sacked Cobblers ranged \$2 to \$2.65 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$2.15 to \$2.25 f.o.b. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.60 to \$1.75 on the Chicago carlot market; around \$1.60 f.o.b. Best Pennsylvania Elberta peaches sold mostly around \$2 to \$2.25 per bushel basket in eastern cities. New York and midwestern yellow varieties of onions brought \$1.40 to \$1.75 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers. Eastern Wealthy apples generally firm at \$1.25 to \$2 per bushel basket in the East.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 46¢; Chicago 45¢; Philadelphia 47¢; Boston 46¢.

Grain prices quoted September 15: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.27 to \$1.39. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.29 to \$1.30. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.28 to \$1.29. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.30; Kansas City \$1.31 to \$1.40. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 94¢; Minneapolis 87 to 88¢; Kansas City 88 to 90¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 97¢; Kansas City 94 to 97¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 95¢ to 96¢; Minneapolis 91 to 92¢; Kansas City 93 to 95¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 46 to 48¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 46 to 48¢; Minneapolis 43 to 44¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 107 points, closing at 20.76¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 118 points, closing at 21.17¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 119 points, closing at 21.10¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 15, | Sept. 14, | Sept. 15, 1926 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 198.97 | 198.00 | 159.35 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 140.08 | 140.25 | 120.58 |
| | (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 16.) | | | |

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 66

Section 1

September 17, 1927.

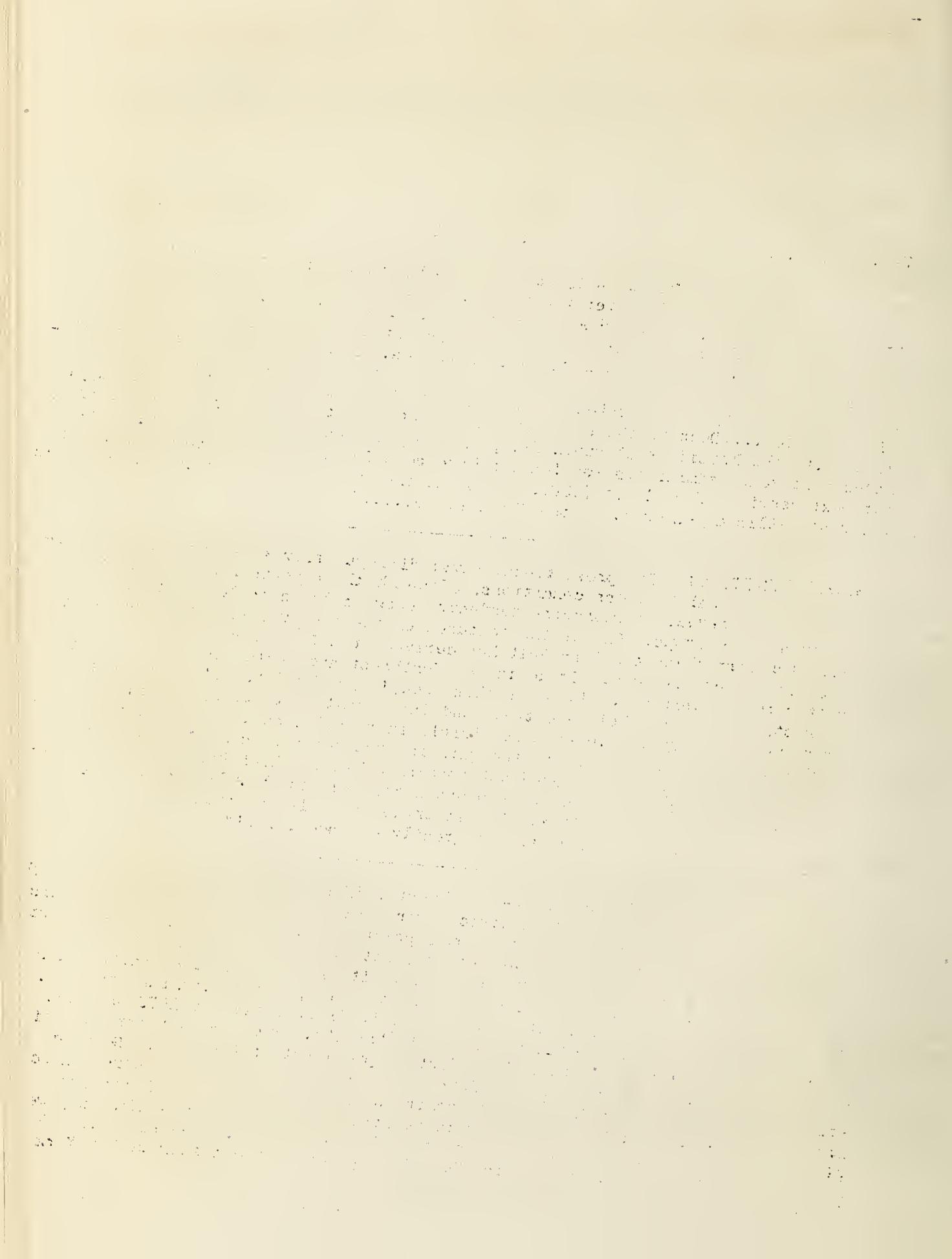
THE PRESIDENT AND TAX REDUC-

The Associated Press to-day reports: "President Coolidge, after going over the tentative Government budget with Director Lord, has reached the conclusion that increased appropriations planned for the War and Navy Departments next year ought not jeopardize a substantial reduction. His view was disclosed yesterday at the White House, where it was said also that he had decided there was no necessity for a special session of Congress solely on account of the Mississippi flood problem.... Despite the statement of Budget Director Lord, after his recent visit with the President at Rapid City, that big increases in appropriations were faced next year, administration leaders have been looking forward to a total tax cut next session of at least \$300,000,000 and they were encouraged by Mr. Coolidge's views as outlined yesterday at the White House....."

BUSINESS CONDITIONS The press to-day says: "Irregularity still prevails in general business conditions, although the reports for the last week reveal an improving tendency, especially in wholesale trade and industry and the crops. One of the features of the week has been the excellent outlook for corn which the Corn Belt has derived from the intensely hot, dry weather it has experienced. Trade in the Northwest and South has been equal to or better than a year ago. 'Reports this week,' says Bradstreet's, 'reflect a further stepping-up in wholesale trade and industrial activities, and in crop reports, whereas very little gain is visible in retail trade. Responsibility for the activity in primary lines and the gain in crop reports seems to rest mainly on the arrival of the long-delayed hot forcing weather, which has, temporarily at least, put a new face on the corn crop prospect, and also has been a helpful factor in pushing forward cotton. Retail trade has felt the brunt of higher temperatures in wide areas and has not greatly expanded....'"

NEW POWER POOL

The press to-day reports: "Formation of what is probably the world's largest electric power pool was announced yesterday. This latest and greatest of superpower systems will cover the industrial districts and main cities of New Jersey and, with the exception of Pittsburgh, most of the important cities in Pennsylvania. It will involve the construction of three transmission lines totaling 208 miles, which, with switching stations, will cost about \$26,000,000. The system will be in operation by 1930 and will have an output of 2,250,000 kilowatts of electricity. The contract for formation of the pool was signed by Thomas N. McCarter, president of the Public Service Electric and Gas Company; Walter H. Johnson, president of the Philadelphia Electric Company, and Sidney Z. Mitchell, chairman of the Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. Philadelphia Electric is constructing at Conowingo, Md., a power plant which will rank among eastern sources of power next to Niagara Falls. The interconnection under way will bring Conowingo power to the border of New York City."



Section 2

British Beet Sugar Subsidy The Journal of The Ministry of Agriculture for September says: "The last beet sugar manufacturing campaign was the most successful since the introduction of the subsidy. The acreage under beet was more than double that of the previous year and five additional factories were available to handle the crop. Increased experience in cultivation and the happy circumstance of a favorable growing season were reflected in a much larger production of sugar per acre of land under sugar beet."

Ford and Rubber Production A dispatch September 16 from London says: "A report from the United States that Henry Ford has acquired 1,000,000 acres of land in Para, Brazil, for rubber cultivation finds British rubber growers professing to be undisturbed by the news of the Detroit man's entry into a rubber war. 'It is unlikely that the news from New York will have any effect on rubber prices here,' said Ian Wilson, director of a firm of important rubber brokers. In the first place, it will be several years before any rubber can be produced for Ford, and in the second, great labor difficulties and the high cost of working in Brazil probably make the plan uneconomic.....' The Evening Standard thinks that the real importance of Ford's move is the indication it contains of the growing bitterness of American consumers against the Stevenson rubber restriction scheme. 'For this reason if for no other,' The Evening Standard's financial editor comments, 'many authorities here believe that British industry would benefit enormously by the removal of the restriction. So far it has done little good, and, as Ford's action shows, has built a barrier of bitterness between America, the great rubber consumer, and Britain, the greatest rubber producer.'"

Harvest Combines in Canada Though combines were tried out in Western Canada as early as 1922, the year 1926 saw the first general practical test of the reaper-thresher in the territory, and the voluminous demand for the machines this year would augur a wide agreement as to their practicability in the area, which leads authorities to anticipate something of a repetition of Kansas history in this respect. The general adoption of this machine would probably be the most revolutionary factor ever introduced into Canadian agriculture, says a Canadian Pacific Railway bulletin. Briefly, it eliminates the operations of bundling, tying, and stocking, and threshes the grain as it goes along. Its possible effect may be judged from the fact that at harvest time the Canadian West finds it necessary to import about 50,000 additional workers, and the number naturally rises with the increase in cultivation. The Canadian agricultural implement industry, a great Dominion activity representing a capital of nearly \$82,000,000 and with a production valued at \$25,000,000, is alert to the new trend and has provided for this situation.

Wild Life Conservation An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for September 8 says: "Being a lover of birds and animals and interested in the conservation of all species of wild life, Francis A. Foster, county commissioner of Dukes County, Massachusetts, recently gave outright 600 acres on Martha's Vineyard Island to the Federation of Bird Clubs of New England, Inc., the land to be used exclusively as a wild bird-life sanctuary. More than that, the donor has announced that he will provide an endowment from his private resources adequate to maintain the tract indefinitely as a public bird reservation....Here in the Northwest, for

September 17, 1927.

instance, are many tracts of land--wild land that is of little value save for its scenic beauty and for public recreational purposes--that might easily be acquired now and preserved as wild-life reservations for the benefit of posterity. Tracts of such land that to-day might be acquired for the proverbial 'song,' undoubtedly will be at a premium a generation or so hence, made valuable by the growing increase of population and of human congestion....And the most regrettable element in the situation as it exists is found in the fact that every year and every day our natural beauty spots are deteriorating from neglect and the wild life of forest, prairie and rocky retreat is fast disappearing before the encroachment of industry and the ruthless sportsman whose interest is centered in the day's kill. In what has just been done on Martha's Vineyard there is food for serious thought on the part of every nature lover and of every citizen, North, South, East or West, who is patriotic and who sees in life something much higher than commercialism and industrial development and something much nobler and more worthy than mere money-getting."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 16: Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12, or 25 cents higher than a week ago. Beef steers showed a continued upward trend, heifers were steady to 50 cents lower, while cows ranged from steady to 25 cents higher. Vealers increased sharply, heavy calves remained steady, and stocker and feeder steers ranged from steady to 25 cents higher. Fat lambs and yearling wethers showed a decided increase with fat ewes and feeding lambs also increasing from 15 to 50 cents.

Potato markets unsettled. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites sold at \$2.15-\$2.25 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities; \$1.60-\$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes lower at \$2.75-\$3 per barrel in most markets, low as \$1.25-\$1.50 in Baltimore. Tennessee Nancy Halls about steady at 80¢-\$1 per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York domestic type cabbage fairly steady at \$14-\$22 bulk per ton in eastern consuming centers; mostly \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Best Michigan Elberta peaches firm in Chicago at \$2 per bushel basket.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 46¢; Chicago 45¢; Philadelphia 47¢; Boston 46¢.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 16: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.29-\$1.43. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.31-\$1.34. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.37. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.29-\$1.39. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 90¢; Minneapolis 84-85¢; Kansas City 84-87¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 93-94¢; Kansas City 92-95¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 88-92¢; Minneapolis 88-89¢; Kansas City 91-93¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 84-87¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 46-47¢; Minneapolis 43-44¢; Kansas City 46-49¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 13 points, closing at 20.63¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were down 15 points, closing at 21.02¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 15 points, closing at 20.95¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 16, | Sept. 15, | Sept. 16, 1926 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 198.85 | 198.97 | 158.71 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 139.69 | 140.08 | 120.56 |

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 17.)

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 67

Section 1

September 19, 1927

BREAD INDUSTRIES REPORT The press to-day states that reports on the result of two of the twelve investigations of industries, trade organizations and trade conditions, being conducted by the Federal Trade Commission, are nearly ready and soon will be submitted to the Senate.

The reports near completion cover competitive conditions, prices, costs and profits in the petroleum and the bread and flour milling industries. The bread and flour milling investigation involves a study of the cost of a loaf of bread from the time the wheat leaves the farm until the bread is delivered at the dwelling of consumers. A draft report was recently submitted to the commission. Two preliminary reports have been published already, one on February 11 last relating to bakery combinations and one on May 7, 1926, on competitive conditions in flour milling...."

ORANGE CROP USERS Four cities--New York, Boston, Chicago and Philadelphia--are estimated by the Bureau of Railway Economics, maintained at Washington by the carriers, to constitute a market for more than half of the entire crop of oranges produced each year in California and Florida. The actual proportion of the 1926 crop going to these cities, the bureau said yesterday, was 55 per cent, while there was an additional supply of Porto Rican citrus fruit that went almost exclusively to New York. For the year ended September, 1926, the bureau calculated, the orange shipment from Florida and California to the 36 principal markets amounted to 42,290 carloads, and the four cities named took 23,016 cars. New York alone took 32 per cent of the Florida production, and 24.1 per cent of the California fruit.

FRENCH GRAIN CROPS An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Paris says: "French grain crops this year are abundant, but the quality of wheat is so poor because of excessive rains, it is estimated that from 160,000,000 to 180,000,000 bushels of wheat will have to be imported from the United States and elsewhere for mixing. This is less than was imported last year, when drought made the French crop extremely short. The Government has reduced by one half the quantity obligatory mixture of other ingredients with wheat flour in bread, consequently France will have much better bread. After next January only rye will be mixed with wheat flour."

TAX CUT HEARINGS The press to-day reports: "Chairman Green has called a meeting of the House ways and means committee for October 31 to begin hearings 'in contemplation of a revision of the Revenue Act of 1926.' This will be the first step in drafting the tax reduction bill of 1928, and the hearings, which are scheduled to run at least ten days, are expected to clear the way of a large number of details respecting administrative provisions of the existing law and also afford those interested an opportunity to be heard on the general subject of taxation. The tentative schedule has been arranged as follows: Oct. 31-Nov. 1--General statements. Nov. 2--Income tax corporations. Nov. 3--Income tax-individuals. Nov. 4-5--Board of tax appeals and general administrative features. Nov. 7--Exercise and stamp taxes. Nov. 8-9--Estate tax. Nov. 10--Miscellaneous..."

September 19, 1927.

Section 2

British Ministry of Agriculture "The report of the work of the Intelligence Department for the two years 1924-26, just issued, gives an account of the progress achieved in that period in the Ministry's schemes of research and advisory work, agricultural education, horticulture and livestock improvement. In presenting the report, Sir Daniel Hall expresses the hope that it shows that the resources which have been placed at the Ministry's disposal for such purposes have been economically used in the execution of a sound policy. The period on the whole was one of consolidation, and the progress rendered possible by the provision of the Corn Repeal Fund in 1921 has been secured. In this period the Institutes of Agricultural Engineering, at Oxford and of Animal Pathology at Cambridge were firmly established and have entered on what it is hoped will be long and distinguished careers. The research institutes may now be said to have reached a position of stability; the original scheme has been completed, and the research staffs, which expanded rapidly after the war, are in process of settling down. The crying need now is the provision of endowment funds. With the creation of the Empire Marketing Board and the convening of an Imperial Agricultural Research Conference for next October, prospects of organized influence and helpfulness throughout the Empire are opening before the Research Institutes, the primary concern of which, however, must always be the interests of the British farmer....In advisory work, the service of economic advisers in agriculture has been completed and now covers the whole country, and the number of assistants for dairy bacteriology--a staff designed for the improvement of the milk supply--has been largely augmented. The services of chemists, entomologists, and mycologists have been maintained at their full strength, and there are also a few advisory officers in veterinary science....The scheme for selecting promising graduates (usually with first class honors in pure science) and training them in agricultural research in this country and abroad, to fit them for research and advisory posts, was continued, there being still a large demand for men. A similar scheme for securing recruits for the service of agricultural education was also continued. A number of traveling fellowships was again, in the period under review, awarded to agricultural research and advisory workers, to enable them to visit workers abroad and keep abreast of the progress of research in their own and allied subjects...."

Cotton in Texas

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for September 17 says: "A year ago the condition of cotton in Texas was officially estimated at 57 per cent. The weather turned favorable and the enormous crop of 5,627,831 bales was ginned. Is there not a chance of the same thing happening this year, with a crop considerably in excess of the official estimate of 4,700,000 bales? The answer to that inquiry is, No. Cotton's condition in Texas is only one point below that of a year ago; also 928,000 bales have been ginned to September 1 against 488,000 a year ago. These facts may be used to bolster up hopes of a large crop in Texas, but the conditions that made the large crop possible in 1926 are not there this year...."

September 19, 1927.

Crop Forecasting "Crop Forecasting in England" is the subject of an article by In Britain J. A. Venn of the Cambridge School of Agriculture in The Economic Journal (London) for September. In his article Mr. Venn says: "... It is unfortunate that strictly comparable forecasts are not issued by any independent body, so that it might be possible to place the official series side by side with extraneously prepared estimates, as was effected in the case of recorded yields. The Times, however, compiles preliminary statements early in the months of July, August and September, in which the condition of crops is recorded in percentages, where 100 equals 'a healthy and average growth and development for the time of year.' This figure, being somewhat akin to the United States 'normal,' its main function is to provide an indication as to whether improvement or deterioration is registered at each monthly interval, but a close examination of the final, or September series, extending over the same period of years (1906-1925) as covered by the Ministry's forecasts, provides evidence that they are at least free from any bias and, further, are in harmony with the Times statements relating to final yields...."

Farm Loans

A Denver dispatch to the press of September 15 says: "Despite recent agricultural depression, life insurance companies of America, controlling billions of dollars of funds for investment, still look with favor on farm loans, D.T.Torrens, Kansas City, told the farm mortgage group of the Mortgage Bankers' Association of America in session at Denver Sept. 14. He said decreases in farm population and the corresponding increase in cities is not to be deplored, but on the contrary is natural and inescapable and is due largely to economic causes and better farm methods requiring less labor. With farm lands admittedly as low as they can go, this fact makes mortgages on good farms substantial security, he said. He pointed out that only half of the country's farms are mortgaged, while industrial and urban real estate securities of almost every other type are encumbered for a far greater percentage of their actual value than are farm lands...."

An editorial on this subject in The Journal of Commerce for Sept. 16 says: "A speaker before the Mortgage Bankers' Association of America, in session at Denver, has solemnly assured the delegates present that life insurance companies still look with favor upon farm loans as an outlet for investment funds. His hearers must have wondered what would happen to American farms and to American investment institutions in the impossible event of a boycott on farm loans. Nevertheless the fact that assurances of any sort were considered necessary induces a number of reflections upon the past excesses and indiscretions that have been committed in grants of agricultural long time credits. Far from being suspect, there is no better type of security to be found anywhere than a mortgage-secured obligation on productive farm lands. The troubles that have arisen and the losses that have resulted from farm mortgage loans with few exceptions have grown out of advances that fostered speculation in lands or covered current short time capital needs instead of helping the farmer to increase his permanent capital investment in and on the land. With due allowance for variations in crop returns and prices, farm lands have an assured value that, barring widespread catastrophes, can always be realized upon. It would not be necessary to repeat these platitudes if borrowing on farm mortgages had been conducted with a decent

regard for the income producing capacity of the soil and with proper safeguards against speculative utilization of the proceeds of loans when secured."

Financial
Aid In
Texas

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 10 says: "Nathan Adams, president of the American Exchange Bank of Dallas, has often declared in public addresses that bankers who have nerve enough to finance a cotton crop before it is planted should certainly have the courage to stick with the crop after it is made. This terse way of stating a fact has evidently had some effect because the bankers of Texas, supported by the Federal Reserve Bank, have announced their willingness to finance the handling of the crop in order that it may be disposed of at the best possible advantage. Farmers who gave their notes at the beginning of the season can have them renewed in case they desire to hold cotton off the market. All that is required is that the cotton thus used as security be warehoused and protected. This being true, there is no reason to rush cotton onto the market as fast as it is ginned unless there is a dire need of money. Those who want to hold in the belief that prices will improve have the opportunity. The offer of this financial assistance, however, will be without effect unless cotton growers accept. The growers, after all, are the ones finally responsible for glutting the market at harvest time."

Motor Traffic An editorial in Successful Farming for September says: "On January 1, 1927, there were 22,127,334 automobiles registered in the United States. That is about one to every five persons. There are only 27,650,257 cars in the world, or less than five million for all other countries than the States, and about 95 per cent of these foreign cars were made in the United States or by foreign branches. Surely the people of this country are on wheels. Maybe that is why the American Road Builders' Association is putting on a highway safety campaign beginning October 1. The number of deaths from auto mishaps is appalling. Surely something needs be done to create greater caution among drivers and pedestrians. Fortunately, there is little drunkenness, for with one car to about every two or three adults on the streets and highways, either in cars or otherwise, sobriety is imperative for safety. The highway departments are doing the right thing when they take sharp turns out of highways and widen the corners and curves. One weakness is the bridge that is narrower than the roadbed. Safety lies not in a speed fixed by law. The driver should be held responsible for safe driving, regardless of the speed. In some States there is no speed limit. One may drive safely at sixty-five or recklessly at ten miles an hour."

World Cotton The New York Times of September 17 says: "America has nothing to fear from increased production of cotton in other parts of the world, for such supplies can only partly compensate for the extreme vagaries of the American crop, says Prof. John A. Todd of Liverpool, England, in an analysis of the world cotton outlook published by the Association of Cotton Textile Merchants of New York. The analysis explained that despite record production last year the elasticity of the demand has been greater than anticipated and the growth of consumption has exceeded the increase in supply. Professor Todd warned that there is still great danger of short crops in the United States through boll weevil damage and that it is impossible to check such damages or to forecast them in any one season and that for this reason efforts should be made to spread the world's supply over as large an area as possible."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended September 16: Potato markets unsettled. Wisconsin sacked round whites sold at \$2.15 to \$2.25 per 100 pounds in midwestern cities; \$1.60 to \$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes lower at \$2.75 to \$3 per barrel in most markets, low as \$1.25 to \$1.50 in Baltimore. Tennessee Nancy Halls about steady at 80¢ to \$1 per bushel hamper in the Middle West. New York domestic type cabbage fairly steady at \$14 to \$22 bulk per ton in eastern consuming centers; mostly \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Best Michigan Elberta peaches firm in Chicago at \$2 per bushel basket.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12, or 25 cents higher than a week ago. Beef steers showed a continued upward trend, heifers were steady to 50¢ lower, while cows ranged from steady to 25¢ higher. Vealers increased sharply, heavy calves remained steady, and stocker and feeder steers ranged from steady to 25¢ higher. Fat lambs and yearling wethers showed a decided increase with fat ewes and feeding lambs also increasing from 15 to 50¢.

Butter markets continued firm during the week ending September 16. Production continues to show seasonal decline, although conditions are quite favorable for this time of the year. Storage butter is being sold in many cases where a profit is obtainable. Total U.S. holding of butter on September 1, reported as 163,037,000 pounds, the heaviest on record. Closing prices on 92 score: New York 46¢; Chicago 45¢; Philadelphia 47¢; Boston 46¢. Cheese markets steady to firm, moderate trading with dealers generally holding for asking prices. South inquiry good. Rains in Wisconsin favor production. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin primary markets on Sept. 15: Single Daisies 25¢; Double Daisies $2\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas 26¢; Longhorns $25\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Square Prints 26¢.

Grain markets weaker with favorable weather, slackening of export inquiry and lower foreign markets. Wheat prices down 5 to 7 cents for week. Corn declined sharply with liberal offerings and continued warm weather. Oats steady, reflecting light supply and good demand. Rye about steady.

Hay markets about steady with light receipts and fair demand. Top grades in urgent request but considerable poor quality hay among offerings. Alfalfa demand slightly more active. Quality of arrivals improving. Prairie shipping inquiry increasing in some sections. Trading only moderate. No.1 timothy New York \$23; Philadelphia \$18; Cincinnati \$15; Memphis \$19.50; No.1 alfalfa Kansas City \$17.50; Omaha \$15.50. No.1 prairie Kansas City \$10.50; Omaha \$11.50.

Sharp declines in the price of the principal grains have weakened the feed market and quotations on several feeds have been lowered materially. Middlings have declined \$2 to \$3 per ton but are still \$6 to \$8 higher than year ago. Bran market weaker but prices still practically unchanged. Increased crushings of new crop flax causing large offerings of linseed meal and prices at Minneapolis about \$1 lower.

Average price of middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 215 points during the week, closing at 20.63¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 234 points, closing at 21.02¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were down 237 points, closing at 20.95¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 62

Section 1

September 30, 1927.

THE PRESIDENT AND FLOOD CONTROL The press to-day reports that President Coolidge yesterday assured the Tri-State Executive Flood Control Committee of his hearty support of legislation for adequate flood control on a national basis. Members of the committee told him they had no pre-conceived ideas on the engineering work needed, but had confidence that plans to be devised by the Army engineers would be satisfactory and comprehensive. In the opinion of Governor Martineau of Arkansas, who headed the committee, flood control works should be built in the tributaries of the Mississippi River, and might cost \$500,000,000. He believed that it was not necessary to do this work all at once, but that it might be spread over a number of years, so as not to place the burden of expenditure heavily on any fiscal year.

AMERICA TO JOIN TRADE CONFERENCE The press to-day says: "Acceptance by the United States of an invitation from the League of Nations to take part in the international conference to be held at Geneva on October 17 with a view to framing an inter national convention for abolishing import and export prohibitions and restrictions was announced yesterday at the State Department, which made public its correspondence with the league on the subject. Hugh Wilson, American Minister to Switzerland, will represent the United States, assisted by technical advisers. It is probable that these assistants will be named from the Department of Commerce and the Tariff Commission, although the questions to be taken up are not expected to run primarily to tariffs. The conference project is partly an outgrowth of the Economic Conference held under league auspices at Geneva last spring and will have as its agenda a draft convention framed during that conference. The two conferences differ, however, in that the representatives at the Economic Conference had no plenipotentiary powers and could not negotiate treaties. The coming conference, it was explained by the State Department, is a result of the various restrictions, licensing systems, &c., which have arisen in Europe since the war. It will not discuss such questions as prohibitions on account of health or agricultural restrictions against carrying plant diseases, nor the tariff question, except possibly in a broad way and when considered 'more than national.' The United States, it was added, is interested in the conference mainly because its trade is often seriously hampered by minor restrictions, particularly in some of the new nations in Europe set up after the war...."

EGYPTIAN COTTON A Cairo dispatch to the press to-day reports: "The Ministry of Agriculture yesterday issued a preliminary estimate of the present season's cotton crop as 2,598,576 cantars (about 130,000 tons) of Sakellarides and 3,768,237 cantars (about 190,000 tons) of other varieties. The communique adds that this estimate may be modified subsequently in consequence of unforeseen climatic variations and a further estimate will be published in the second half of October..."

September 20, 1927.

Section 2

Banker , Merchant and Farmer or Cooperat- An editorial in Farm and Ranch for September 10 says: "This is the age of cooperation....Bankers and merchants, formerly more or less indifferent to economic conditions in rural districts, so long as the interest was paid, have felt the pinch of hard times which made a start on the farm. Formerly they were interested in local conditions only. To-day, because of increasing efficiency in transportation and communication, they find that agriculture is no longer localized, but that it is a national industry on which they depend as the primary source of their business. Because of this, a serious effort is being made to overcome the prejudices of former years and prove to the producers of food and fiber that they sincerely desire to cooperate with and to help them...In Arkansas the bankers' association has an agricultural committee which has been and is actively engaged in promoting better farming in that State by encouraging crop rotation, soil conservation, and better livestock. In Texas the same kind of work is going on. In Texas, instead of a State-wide movement, the bankers' association has been working in counties where agricultural agents are employed. They have been very successful in many counties and results are seen in closer contacts with local business men; better local markets for farm products and more sympathy for each other in times of stress. Individuality, when carried to extremes, no longer pays. The world is growing smaller day by day, figuratively speaking. We must be neighbors--we are neighbors--one depending upon the other in working out our problems."

Commodity Prices

A strong upward movement in wholesale prices from July to August is shown by information collected in representative markets by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The bureau's weighted index number on the 1913 base and including 404 commodities or price series registered 146.6 for August compared with 144.6 for July, an increase of 1-1/3 per cent. Compared with August, 1926, however, with an index number of 149.2, there was a decrease of 1-3/4 per cent. An increase of 4 per cent took place in the group of farm products, due to advances in corn, cattle, hogs, cotton, eggs, hay, and tobacco. Wheat, onions, and potatoes, on the other hand were cheaper than in July. Foods, clothing materials, metals, house-furnishing goods, and miscellaneous commodities also averaged higher than in the month before, while small decreases are shown for building materials, chemicals and drugs, and for fuels as a whole, although coal advanced. Of the 404 commodities or price series for which comparable information for July and August was collected, increases are shown in 142 instances and decreases in 93 instances. In 169 instances no change in price was reported.

Cotton Supply

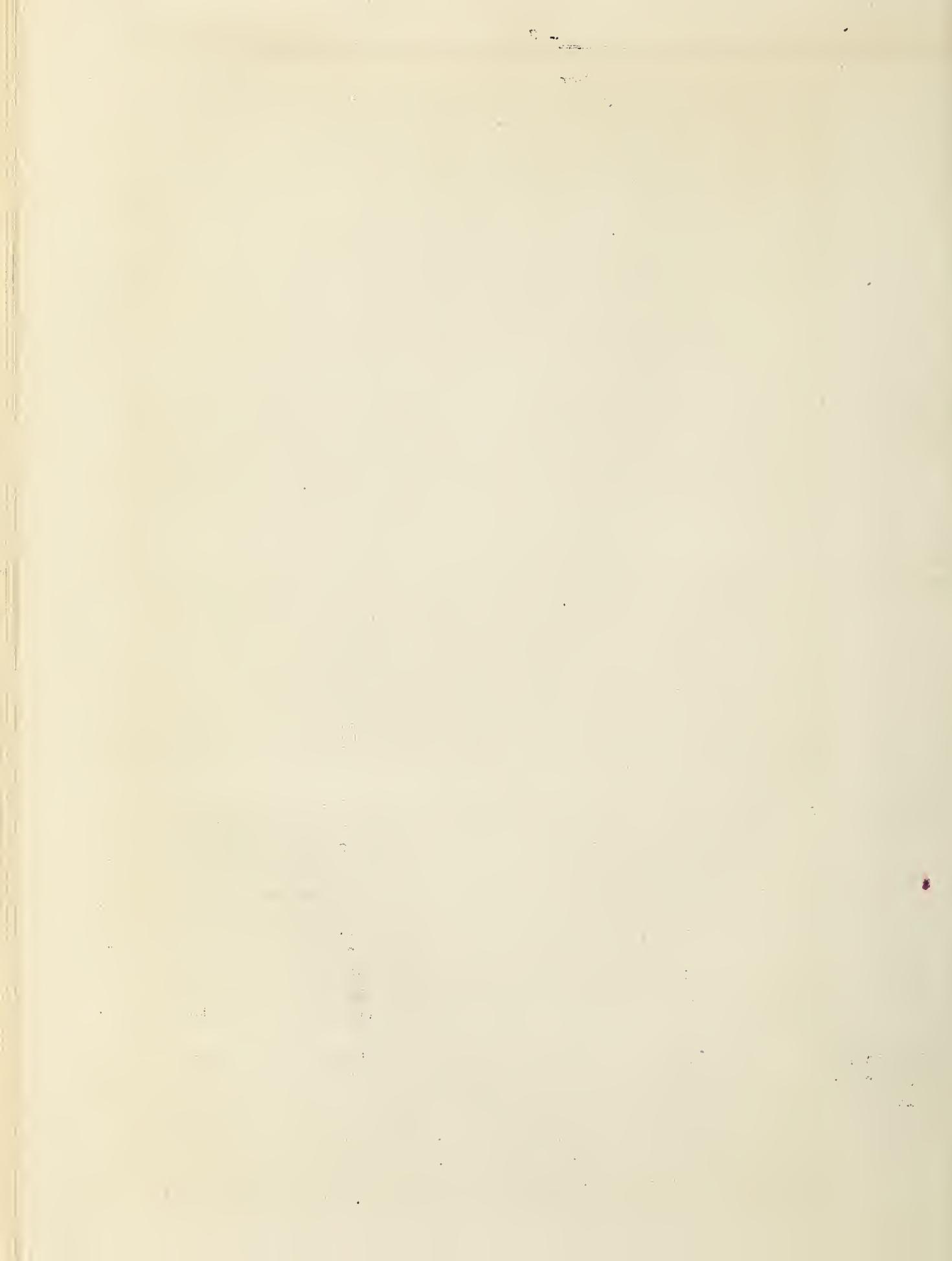
An editorial in The Commercial and Financial Chronicle for September 17 says: "A week ago, in discussing the latest Government estimate of the size of the growing cotton crop in the United States, which put the probable yield at only 12,692,000 bales, as compared with an actual harvest last season, according to the ginning returns of the Census Bureau, of 17,977,374 bales, we gave our reasons for thinking that this estimate was likely to fall below the mark. But suppose the crop should prove no larger than this exceedingly low figure, which certainly discounts by a very liberal margin everything of an injurious nature that can possibly happen between now and the

September 20, 1928.

end of the year, what then? The inquiry is worth looking into in view of the tremendous speculation and great rise in the price of the staple that has developed on the cotton exchanges of the country, in fear of the eventuality supposed, and based on the idea that with the crop reduced to the figure given a dearth in the supply of cotton, if not a positive famine, must necessarily arise. Is there any warrant or justification for any such supposition--that is, is there any likelihood of a famine or even of a dearth in the supply of the staple? Merely a casual glance at the statistics suffices to indicate that there is not, while when probe is made below the surface actual astonishment arises that anyone should have been bold enough to venture such a suggestion. New interest is given the subject of the International Federation of Master Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers Associations at Manchester, showing mill consumption of cotton for the half-year ending July 31, 1927 and also stocks on hand at the mills throughout the world at the end of the half-year....What leads to the fear that cotton consumption in the United States during the current season ending on July 31, 1928, may not, treating the twelve months as a whole, keep up to the very large total reached the past season is the circumstance that in at least some of the new fields into which cotton has entered a low price--a very low price--is absolutely essential in order to hold the field....In the foregoing we have been dealing entirely with the stocks of American cotton and been weighing against them the probabilities regarding consumption. But there are also considerable stocks of foreign cottons--East Indian, Egyptian, Peruvian, Brazilian, etc. In any broad and comprehensive consideration of the subject these stocks of foreign cotton can not be left out of the reckoning. These stocks go to augment the carry-over of American cotton which on July 31, 1927, as shown above, amounted to no less than 8,169,565 bales. Turning once more to the statistics made available by the International Federation of Cotton Spinners we find that the mill stocks of foreign cotton at the end of the late season, while not quite up to those at the end of the previous season, were yet of large proportions...."

Flood Control The press of September 19 states that the Flood Control Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States will leave Washington September 19 for a tour of the Mississippi Valley flood areas. The committee will be headed by Lewis E. Pierson of New York, president of the chamber, and will include ex-Secretary of War Jacob M. Dickinson of Chicago; Dr. Daniel M. Mead of the University of Wisconsin; Robert A. Taft of Cincinnati; Henry G. Bradlee of Boston; Arthur S. Bent of Los Angeles and M. S. Sloan of New York. The purpose of the trip is to obtain by personal observation and thorough contact with business leaders and others first-hand information to be incorporated in a report which the committee will make in October.

Public Land Conservation An editorial in Chicago Journal of Commerce for September 14 says: "The American Mining Congress wants 400,000,000 acres of Federal lands in western States turned over to private ownership. It is natural that the bulk of the membership of the American Mining Congress should wish to open up the Federal Government's lands, which include large mining areas. But the necessity for doing so now is not at all clear. Some day these 400,000,000 acres of public lands must be turned over to exploitation and development. But now now. The holding



September 20, 1927.

of these lands by the Federal Government so far has been a wise policy. We have seen the depletion and destruction of abundant natural resources which have been in private hands....The past destruction of natural resources in private hands makes it advisable that the Government retain in its own possession anything that can be held as a reservoir of supply. Thanks to our past policy, we have this reservoir now. And there is no immediate need for dipping into it....Let us not hoard in miserly fashion; but also let us not squander. What a fine thing it would be for the United States to-day if a few large areas of white pine had been held out from the early destructive rush, and if this white pine were now allowed to be cut on a crop basis only, instead of being destroyed rapidly. If we possessed this white pine now, and if we adopted a policy of never lessening our supply of it, both the present America and the future America would be benefited...."

Soviet and
Egyptian
Cotton

A Cairo dispatch to the press of September 19 says: "It is announced that the Soviet Government has not yet presented an official offer to purchase Egyptian cotton, but has merely requested permission to send experts to examine the cotton. These having arrived, the Egyptian Government has issued instruction the required facilities be afforded them."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Saturday Evening Post for September 17 says: "The appropriation at the command of the Department of Agriculture ranges around one hundred and sixty million dollars a year. A large slice of it is devoted to road building. Other slices maintain the work of a whole series of police departments, such as the bureaus which enforce the pure-food law, sundry plant quarantines and a long list of similar activities. Only six or seven per cent of the entire sum is spent upon scientific research calculated to take the guesswork out of farming and to evolve correct procedures which will do away with cut-and-try methods. Only six or seven per cent of the personnel of the department is devoting its energies to the solution of these problems. Expenditures for research are in the neighborhood of ten million dollars a year. This may seem like a liberal allowance; but when it is said that a single American corporation is spending a like amount instead of paying it out in dividends, and when it is added that its stockholders whole-heartedly approve this farsighted method of keeping a decade ahead of the times, Uncle Sam's ten millions do not loom quite so large. Another corporation is credited with spending something like seven millions a year in the same way; and the manner in which its stock and dividends have been climbing in recent years would argue that the expenditure is emply justified. During the years in which departmental research has been curtailed, the resources of science have been tremendously increased. Problems which used to be attacked on a single front by one branch of learning are now assaulted on half a dozen fronts by as many batteries of specialists....It is not to be held against the department if its reports and bulletins are not all snapped up like best sellers and read with avidity from cover to cover. Bureau scientists are not to be blamed if certain of their studies are not of the widest application and do not noticeably hasten the farmers' millennium. They are surrounding and edging up on problems whose solution will mean hundreds of millions a year in the pockets of the American people. Their work is reenforced by earlier studies which, if without momentous value, may still point the way to more important victories. There are

plenty of problems whose solution would have a greater effect than the discovery of a new Klondike.

"The entire vegetable crop of the Nation is valued at something like a billion and a half dollars a year. The sum available for the study of the conditions under which it is made has been in the neighborhood of ninety thousand dollars a year. Other similar inadequacies might be cited; but pretty much the same proportions hold good all the way down the line....Everyone who is familiar with the situation knows how grave it is. A very few additional millions would put a new face on the matter. To grant them would be to grant one form of farm relief against which nothing can be said, for it would be a relief sound in theory, simple in practice, far from costly and lasting in its results."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 19: Potato prices declined 20¢-35¢. Eastern sacked Round Whites \$1.85-\$2.45 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.55-\$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes slightly lower at \$2-\$2.75 per barrel in eastern markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 90¢-\$1 per 7/8 bushel hamper in Chicago. New York Domestic type cabbage \$2-\$4 lower at \$11-\$18 bulk per ton in the East; \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and midwestern yellow onions ranged 10¢-50¢ lower at \$1.40-\$1.65 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$12, or 5 cents lower than a week ago. Beef steers continued to show an upward trend, heifers and cows ranged from steady to 50 cents higher, vealers 50 to 75 cents higher and steady on heavy calves. Stocker and feeder steers showed an increase of 25 cents, fat lambs, yearling wethers and fat ewes increasing from 15 to 75 cents. Feeding lambs were steady to 10 cents lower.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 19: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.39-\$1.43. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.29. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.27-\$1.28. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.28-\$1.30. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 91¢; Minneapolis 86-87¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 94-96¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 93-94¢; Minneapolis 90-91¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 47-49¢; Minneapolis 44-45¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 72 points, closing at 19.98¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 71 points, closing at 20.32¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were down 79 points, closing at 20.26¢.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Chicago 45¢; Philadelphia 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Boston 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 69

Section 1

September 21, 1927.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY ON COOPERATION

Assistant Secretary Dunlap is reported by the press of this morning to have asserted before five hundred delegates to the joint convention of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies and the Federation of Mutual Fire Insurance Companies at Washington last night that cooperative production and marketing of crops is one solution of the farm relief question. The report says: "Mr. Dunlap declared also that mutual insurance companies have awakened many other businesses and farm interests to the value of cooperation in their fields."

THE FRENCH TARIFF

The Associated Press to-day reports: "A renewed American proposal for negotiation of a most-favored nation commercial treaty to cover trade exchanges has been communicated to Paris in an effort by the State Department to avert a tariff war with France. The note was said yesterday in official circles to have been framed in the hope that France would find it possible, once a complete explanation of the American viewpoint had been presented at the foreign office, to eliminate discrimination imposed against American goods by new tariff schedules. The American hope even extends to the early elimination of these duties pending the negotiation of a commercial pact founded on unconditional most-favored nation treatment...."

The New York Times to-day quotes Arthur L. Faubel, secretary of the American Tariff League in an analysis of the new French tariff rates yesterday, as declaring that France had more to lose than the United States in case of a trade war. "The United States," he said, "had a favorable balance of trade with France in 1926 amounting to \$112,000,000. However, the imports from France, which amounted to \$152,000,000, were made up largely of luxury items. Our exports to France, which amounted to \$264,000,000, were made up principally of important basic commodities. From this it would certainly seem as though France had more to lose in a tariff war with the United States than has this country."

BRITISH COTTON COOPERATION

Plans to secure closer cooperation in matters of policy among the Lancashire spinners of American yarns advanced a stage further yesterday when the general committee of the Master Spinners' Federation approved an agreement reached last week by a joint committee of the Federation and the Cotton Yarn Association, according to a Manchester, Eng., dispatch to-day. The agreement will not be made public until it has been considered by the executive committee of the Cotton Yarn Association.

NO SPECIAL SESSION

The press to-day reports that President Coolidge made known definitely yesterday that there will not be an extra session of Congress. It has been indicated for some time that he would follow the advice of the majority of leaders in Congress and not call an extra session. But yesterday he indicated that it was a closed question.

Section 2

Combine Harvester An editorial in Successful Farming for September says: "What will it do? Cut and thresh wheat, oats, barley, rye, speltz, flax, buckwheat, sweet clover, red clover, alfalfa, soybeans. Where will it work? Where the acreage will warrant the investment, and the fields are large enough to operate a tractor economically. Is it economical? It cuts the labor bill at harvest. It enables the farmer to harvest when he pleases without waiting his turn for a threshing outfit. It reduces the burden upon the farm women at harvest time. A combine can harvest and thresh about 40 acres of wheat per foot of cutting bar, or 400 acres per machine of usual purchase. Repairs cost around 15 cents per acre. On a 100-acre basis the cost per bushel of wheat is around 16 cents, while on 500 and 600-acre fields the cost may be cut in half. The capacity per foot of cutting bar in wheat is a little under a quarter acre per hour. The machine will last as long as any other farm machinery properly cared for. Is grain harvested with a combine as good as if cut, shocked and threshed? It is. It may be better, for standing grain can go through a spell of bad weather better than shocked grain. There is no delay, for standing grain will dry out quicker after rain than cut grain. Soybeans harvested with combines contain less moisture than harvested other ways. Germination of such beans is better. The combine and corn picking machines are the greatest advancement in reducing labor on the farm since the introduction of the self-binder and mowing machine. It is the trend toward elimination of hired labor. It is practical farm economics."

Factory Methods An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 17 says: "The laws of cause and effect are as immutable as time. They operate on the farm and in the factory without let or hindrance regardless of how we may feel about it. In factory terms, the American farm represents over 6,000,000 little industries. To hope to apply factory methods to this multitude of little enterprises at once is out of the question, but it is being done gradually with the result that those who are not adapted to farming and do not apply efficient methods are being gradually turned into other channels of livelihood. This is not an unmixed blessing, nor is it to be especially deprecated, for as the agricultural engineers point out, 'there is a surplus of workers in the production and of agriculture. The inefficient operators should be transferred from the production end of the industry to the processing activities where they can operate under proper and efficient direction. The farm boy who enters the local creamery is as much a part of agriculture as he was when he operated his mother's churn.'"

Farmer Controlled Markets An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for September 10 says: "If farm crops are to be marketed in the interest of the farmer, we hold it as fundamentally sound that the farmers must, themselves, control the marketing of these crops. Experience has also shown that if farm crops are to be properly processed or prepared for market, these operations must also be controlled by the producers. Moreover, it has been proved that the farmer must follow his products one step further toward the consumer. If farm crops are to be marketed in the interest of the producer, he must not only control all processing or preparing for market, but also the storing and handling of his products

until sold....How, then, are farm crops to be efficiently sold. The fruits of the labor of a thousand farmers in a community making the same product, must be sold in exactly the same way that the fruits of the labor of a thousand cotton mill operatives, for instance, are sold by expert salesmen and at times and places at which the crops are wanted for consumption. Even the nonperishable farm crops, although used throughout the year, are sold in a few months and generally neither when nor where they are wanted for consumption, because of the force of financial necessity, resulting from credit obligations of the producers....The basic differences between farm production and industrial production will alone force the farmers to cooperate for self-protection. Here is where the average business man, merchant, banker, manufacturer, and professional man misinterprets farm economics and fails to comprehend farm problems....."

Food Prices

The retail food index issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor shows for August 15, 1927, a decrease of a little more than one-half of 1 per cent since July 15, 1927; a decrease of about 2 per cent since August 15, 1926; and an increase of 51 per cent since August 15, 1913. The index number (1913 = 100.0) was 155.7 in August, 1926; 153.4 in July, 1927; and 152.4 in August, 1927. During the month from July 15, 1927 to August 15, 1927, 14 articles on which monthly prices were secured decreased as follows: Cabbage, 20 per cent; potatoes, 19 per cent; onions, 18 per cent; leg of lamb, 3 per cent; ham, hens, cornflakes, rice, sugar, prunes and raisins, 1 per cent; and bacon, butter and coffee, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. Seventeen articles increased: Strictly fresh eggs, 14 per cent; pork chops, 8 per cent; oranges, 7 per cent; canned red salmon and flour, 2 per cent; round steak, fresh milk, evaporated milk, lard, macaroni, navy beans, canned corn and bananas, 1 per cent; and sirloin steak, cheese, wheat cereal and tea, less than five-tenths of 1 per cent. The following 11 articles showed no change: Rib roast, chuck roast, plate beef, oleo-margarine, vegetable lard substitute, bread, cornmeal, rolled oats, baked beans, canned peas and canned tomatoes.

Hog Grading

An editorial in Ontario Farmer for September 15 says: "A recent press dispatch announced that all the larger Canadian packers have agreed to commence some time this month the purchase of all hogs on grade. In the past it has been compulsory for all hogs to be 'graded' but it remained simply a matter between buyer and seller whether the actual purchase was made on the graded basis or on the flat. In many instances it was on the flat. Now the packers are going to pay the drovers according to grade for every hog delivered to their plants. This is an announcement that Ontario has been waiting for quite some time, and the actual working out of the scheme should prove a tremendous force in keeping hog production on a proper basis. There is no need to again dilate upon the reason why Canada as a whole must stick to the bacon type of hog. The facts are already well understood by every intelligent hog raiser. One of the chief difficulties in the past has been the feeling that the packers were trying to hoodwink the producers by advocating bacon type hogs and then buying whole carloads on the flat basis. Another difficulty has been the arguments of some drovers that selling on grade entails extra handling and therefore extra expense and doesn't net the farmer as much money in the long run as flat selling. Now both of these difficulties are overcome.

....In spite of its defects hog grading has been a distinct blessing to the hog industry of this country already. For a time it seemed in danger of losing out but now it appears that it is to receive a new lease of life, and with the mistakes of the past to serve as guide posts it should prove more effective than ever before in stimulating the production of bacon type hogs."

Rubber Prices An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for September 12 says: "Dutch rubber growers are a great trial to the British adherents of the restriction plan, and never more so than when they give publicity to their profits and set forth the disparity that exists between production costs and selling prices. The Government-owned plantations of the Netherland East Indies have recently published the results of their operations in 1926, showing a return on the investment slightly under 60 per cent and a profit per pound of rubber sold which averaged about three and one-half times the cost of production. This estimated cost included transportation to port, management expense and depreciation allowance, making a total cost per pound of 9.849 cents. The average price received for rubber, 45.696 cents, was much above current quotations, but, nevertheless, the Netherlands company can survive and still roll up uncommonly large net earnings on the basis of the prices now ruling. Apparently the happy position of the Netherlands company is not an isolated phenomenon, as other Dutch plantation companies have in their recent annual statements been telling their shareholders that they have no cause to fear that profits will not be earned. Their achievements are a sufficient answer to the contention that the Stevenson restriction scheme has no other purpose than to enable its adherents to obtain a reasonable profit on the basis of fairly ascertained production costs."

Vegetable Diet An editorial in Florida Times-Union for September 9 says: "According to a publication called Railway Economics, the American people are finding out the healthfulness and excellence of a vegetable diet. More and more the public is consuming vegetables and fruit. Probably the citizens of the country are using plenty of meat--they have always used meat, and eat a great deal more meat, proportionately, than the people of foreign lands. Americans can afford to eat meat, three times a day, if they desire it; but it would appear from the facts and figures compiled regarding the situation that there has been a decided turn towards the things that grow. The St. Augustine Record, commenting upon the findings of the publication mentioned, says that the consumption of fruit and vegetables having increased seventy-seven per cent in the past ten years, while the population increase was only twelve per cent, indicates a turn for better health. The rate mentioned indicates doubling the vegetable diet in a dozen years. 'This indicates a remarkable change in the habits of the people,' adds the Record. 'It is not likely that people are eating a larger quantity of food, so they must be eating more fresh vegetables and less grain and meat. The figures show a big increase for nearly all the common vegetables and fruits, but especially for tomatoes, apples, lemons, cabbage, celery, grapes, grapefruit and lettuce. Grapefruit and grapes have more than doubled in ten years and lettuce has more than quadrupled.' It is remarked, and truly, that the change is undoubtedly due in large part to the availability of green stuff through improved transportation methods. The people of the country have always wanted this kind of food, but without the very quickest and best means of transporting it, much of the stuff was unavailable to many, and cost a great

deal more than the average family could afford during a great part of the year. Modern dietetic direction and instruction is admitted to have greatly aided the move to better health made in the adoption of fruits and vegetables for regular use...."

Section 3

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 20: Pennsylvania sacked Round White potatoes sold at a range of \$1.90-\$2.35 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Long Island sacked Green Mountains \$2.25-\$2.35 in New York City. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.60-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.35-\$1.50 f.o.b. Waupaca. Domestic type cabbage from New York State ranged generally \$14-\$18 bulk per ton in city markets; \$9 f.o.b. Rochester. New York and midwestern sacked yellow onions mostly \$1.40-\$1.65 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. northern Indiana. New York Wealthy apples \$5-\$6 per barrel in New York City, McIntosh \$7-\$7.50. Jonathans from Illinois, Kansas and Missouri \$2.25-\$2.75 per bushel basket in the Middle West.

Chicago hog prices closed at \$11.80, prices on beef steers, choice, \$15.25 to \$16; heifers, good and choice, \$9 to \$14; cows, good and choice, \$7.25 to \$10.50; vealers, medium to choice, \$13.00 to \$16.50; heavy calves, medium to choice, \$7 to \$10; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, \$7 to \$10.50; fat lambs, medium to choice, \$13.25 to \$14.35; yearling wethers, medium to choice, \$9 to \$12.25; fat ewes, common to choice, \$3.75 to \$6.50, and feeding lambs, medium to choice, \$12 to \$14.

Grain prices quoted September 20: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.30-\$1.44. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.29. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.28 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City \$1.24-\$1.41. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 93-94 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 yellow corn Chicago \$1-\$1.01; Kansas City 94 $\frac{1}{2}$ -98 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 97-99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 97-98 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ -97 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.3 white oats Chicago 49 $\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis 46-47 $\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 47-50 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated spot markets declined 23 points, closing at 19.75 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 27 points, closing at 20.05 $\frac{1}{2}$, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 20 points, closing at 20.06 $\frac{1}{2}$. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 20, | Sept. 19, | Sept. 20, 1926 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 196.67 | 196.38 | 156.26 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 140.19 | 138.58 | 120.48 |

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 21.)

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 70

Section 1

September 22, 1927

YOUNG TO HEAD RESERVE BOARD The press to-day reports that Roy Archibald Young, Governor of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank, was appointed by President Coolidge yesterday to fill the vacancy on the Federal Reserve Board caused by the resignation of D. R. Crissinger, Governor of the board since 1923. Mr. Young is 45 years old. He was born on May 17, 1882, at Marquette, Mich. He will be by far the youngest member of the board.

THE RADIO COMMISSION The Federal Radio Commission can not complete the plans it has outlined in the one year allotted to straighten out the ether tangle, according to a statement by Rear Admiral W.H.G.

Bullard, chairman of the commission, at New York September 21. "The Radio Act of 1927 gives us one year to perform our duty," said Admiral Bullard, "but we can not do the job in that time. The law provides that after our first year in office the control of radio in the United States must go back to the Department of Commerce. That will be the case unless Congress amends the radio law, which made the board effective last April." (Press, Sept. 21.)

In a talk in New York last night, Admiral Bullard said that in his opinion the educational and instructional feature of broadcasting had not received the attention it deserved. He continued: "I feel sure this could be developed to such an extent as to arouse general public interest, and I have received many inquiries as to how best to proceed to develop a practical course in education. Some radio broadcast stations do now cooperate with their local educational institutions and in some localities loud speakers are installed in classrooms and students are required to take notes of the lectures delivered by qualified instructors from a control studio. It is perfectly apparent that by this means a larger class may be served than the audience of an ordinary class room...." (Press, Sept. 22.)

AIR MAIL SERVICE The press to-day reports that 24 mail airways were in operation in the United States on Sept. 1, or under contract to open before the end of this year, serving 65,677,209 persons. They cover a total of 11,170 miles. William P. MacCracken, jr., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for aeronautics, in making these figures public yesterday said the rapid expansion of aviation activities in the past few months gave new importance to aeronautics as a vocation.

RUBBER RESTRICTION A London dispatch to the press to-day says: "The movement by the British rubber-producing industry to strengthen the Stevenson rubber export restriction scheme by an even more stringent application of its provisions has come to a head, following a persistent decline in price for which the American hand-to-mouth buying is considered largely responsible. Far from believing that the Stevenson scheme should be abandoned as an admitted failure, spokesmen for tighter restriction declare that it failed merely because it was too lenient, and they will press for its tightening when it comes up for revision October 1...."

**Cotton
Picking
Machine****Section 2**

An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for September 21 says: "In this day of mechanical invention and labor-saving machinery, the only efficient cotton picker remains just what it always has been--the fingers of the children of Ham. Because of this, it costs about \$20 to pick a bale of cotton. But inventive genius is being directed towards the cotton fields and there is prospect that successful mechanical pickers will soon help to lower the cost of production. The International Harvester Company has, for some years, been working on such a machine. This season it has eight machines in Texas where its experts are trying them out under actual field conditions. Thus far they have been able to pick about 90% of the open, at the rate of seven acres a day. When we compare the old style reaper with the combine that cuts and threshes grain or the early automobiles with 1927 model, it will appear that the mechanical cotton picker is in sight. There are other wonderful machines destined to reduce the cost of picking cotton. One such is being perfected by the Murray Company. One was seen in operation in Dallas, Texas, that did wonderful work with cotton. Instead of being operated in the field, it picks the cotton at the mill. Snapped cotton was fed into it, and clean lint came out ready for the gin, totally separated from the burrs and trash. 'Snapped cotton' is gathered by breaking off the dry bolls instead of picking out the lint. Obviously cotton can be gathered much faster by snapping than by picking, but it is so full of trash that it is always a low grade. Now comes a picker at the gin that takes those snapped bolls, extracts the lint, and sends it to the gin, clean, fluffy and free from shale. Machinery like this or these will not only reduce the cost of production, but will increase the commercial value of the lint. Weather damage to open cotton will be lessened when machinery takes the place of human fingers, picking either in the field or at the gin. And any machine that will take dirty damp cotton and turn it out clean, dry and fluffy, will also raise the grade and value. The cotton industry needs such machines...."

**Indian Farmer
Grouping** A Pierre, S. Dak., dispatch to the press of September 19 says: "The theory of some social workers that American farm life would be more attractive if farmers lived in groups as they do in European countries is being tried out, in part, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in this State. The Sioux of the Pine Ridge are like other Northwest Indians in that visiting and discussion of daily affairs, whether hunting, fishing or other activities, form a large part of their daily lives. The reservation authorities are attempting to capitalize this trait by organizing the Indians into farm groups in closely associated neighborhoods in the hope of thus interesting the men in general farming work, the women in domestic science and the younger generation in various clubs. The experiment has not been under way for very long, but it is asserted that it has already brought a new spirit into the work of encouraging the Sioux to become a self-supporting farmer..."

Muscle Shoals An editorial in Southern Ruralist for September 15 says: "Ten years ago to a very large degree the whole problem of atmospheric fixation of nitrogen such as the Government is prepared to carry on at Muscle Shoals was still in the conversation stage. To-day, following the lead of Germany and the extraordinary progress made in

that country by its nitrogen plants, the total production has reached the enormous amount of 1,404,000 tons. Unfortunately, on account of procrastination, which has no reasonable explanation, agriculture here in the United States is but little better off in the matter of a home supply of synthetic nitrates to-day than she was when the armistice was signed....In the meantime our Government has dilly-dallied along with its great properties at Muscle Shoals, and for all practical purposes upward of \$100,000,000 worth of property belonging to the people of the country has been lying there idle for seven years, making little or no contribution whatever to the on-going of the Nation. Certainly it is doing nothing at all to provide an independent source of nitrogen for either agriculture or for purposes of war as was originally planned. And may we never forget that at Muscle Shoals the farmers of this country have absolutely their only opportunity of ever securing cheap nitrogen."

Muskrats in Louisiana The New York Times of September 18 says: "One of the interesting things about which the local fur industry is speculating at the moment is whether the movement to have the State of Louisiana put a closed season on muskrats, in order to give those not lost in the floods ample opportunity to breed, will be successful. This move, which is not without opposition on the part of some members of the trade here, is strongly backed in other quarters. Prices on southern muskrat pelts in the New York market are now very high, and it was said yesterday to be doubtful if any business could be done in them if conditions made it seem advisable to try to advance them. Opponents of the closed season are said to base their arguments on their desire to keep the skins scarce and high. Proponents of the move, on the other hand, want the supply brought back to normal as soon as possible with a view to avoiding the loss of the position the southern skins have gained in the trade during the last few years, and they feel that this can best be done by establishing a closed season. . . ."

Price Index Announcement is made that the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor has completed the revision of its index numbers of wholesale prices and the results are now ready for distribution as Bulletin No. 453. The announcement says: "At last '1913' no longer 'equals 100' in the bureau's calculations, as the price base has been changed from the average of the year 1913 to the average of the year 1926. Also, the 'weighting' employed is no longer the quantity entering into the market in 1919, but an average for the years 1923 to 1925....The shift in the price base from 1913 to 1926 was made in order that the latest and most reliable information might be utilized as the standard for measuring price changes. Also, it has become increasingly more apparent that the year 1913 is now too remote to furnish a satisfactory base for comparing price levels in recent years. For much the same reasons data for the years 1923 to 1925 have been substituted for the 1919 figures used in weighting the prices. Where trustworthy information for the three years 1923, 1924, and 1925 could be procured, as in the case of agricultural products, the average for these years was used as the weight....In the 55 months from January, 1923, to July, 1927, the widest divergence in any one month is 2.5 points. In 27 of the 55 months the divergence is 1 point or less, while in 4 months the two series coincide exactly. In all but 11 months of the period under review the new index number is lower than the old, and in only 7 months is it higher.

19. The following table gives the number of hours worked by each of the 1000 workers.

Roadside Markets An editorial in New England Homestead for September 10 says:

"The roadside stand occupies an increasingly prominent part in the farmer's methods of marketing. The American Automobile Association makes a conservative estimate that during 1927 the farmers of the United States will do a \$100,000,000 business through roadside sales. The association predicts that at the present rate of growth the business will exceed a half billion dollars in a few years. New England farmers are in a particularly fortunate position to capitalize on this means of marketing their produce. These Northeastern States are a great natural playground for thousands of people each year. Here in New England there are more thickly settled cities and towns than in any area of similar size in the country. New England, generally speaking, has an abundance of good roads. With the present volume of automobile traffic customers come direct to the farm. In Massachusetts and Rhode Island roadside marketing associations have been formed to increase the business at the stands and to eliminate the dishonest trader. Dr. A. W. Gilbert, commissioner of agriculture at Boston, has taken a commendable step by securing permission from farmers with roadside stands to publish their names and addresses in a pamphlet, and inviting motorists to call at the farms."

Rubber
Shipments

World shipments of rubber in July amounted to 41,480 tons, as compared with 49,459 tons shipped in June and with 47,310 tons shipped in July of last year. Plantation rubber accounted for 39,000 tons of the total and wild and Brazilian rubber for the balance of 2,480 tons, according to advices just received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British Information Service. Shipments of Malayan foreign imports, about 88% of which are imported from the Dutch Islands, amounted to 12,697 tons in July, as against 14,706 tons in June; shipments from British plantations also showed a considerable decrease from those of June being only 11,250 tons as against 17,901 tons. During the month the United Kingdom imported 260,591 centals of raw rubber (centals equals 100 pounds); in the same month last year these imports amounted to 243,002, and in July 1925 they totaled only 146,190 centals. Experts of raw rubber amounted to 235,601 centals in July of this year, as compared with only 91,398 centals and 96,816 for the same month of 1926 and 1925 respectively. For the seven months of this year the United Kingdom has consumed 24,562 tons of rubber and at the end of July had stock on hand amounting to 66,613 tons. In the same period last year consumption amounted to 23,635 tons and the stock on hand at the end of July was 29,202 tons. In the United States, consumption amounted to 232,699 tons up to the end of July 1927, as compared with 208,987 tons for the seven months of last year. Stock on hand at the end of July this year totaled 98,469 tons, while last year at that time it totaled 64,896 tons.

Wool Prices

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for September 17 says: "The demand for wool is broader and prices are stronger by a half cent to a cent a pound in the grease than they were a fortnight ago, with the tendency of the market upward. Foreign wools are practically cleared from the dealers' hands. The manufacturing situation is evidently the best it has been for many months and consumption continues at a fairly steady pace both in the worsted and woolen end of the business. Foreign markets are strong, Australia keeping very firm and, if anything, against the buyer, as is true also in South Africa, while London fully maintains the par to 5 per cent advance reported at the opening, Tuesday, over the close of previous series."

September 22, 1927

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 21: Potato markets somewhat unsettled. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites closed at \$1.85-\$2 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.50 f.o.b. Pennsylvania sacked Round Whites \$2-\$2.3 in eastern cities. New York domestic type cabbage slightly weaker at \$10-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$8-\$9 f.o.b. Rochester. Peach prices firm. New York Elbertas mostly \$2.25-\$2.75 per bushel basket in eastern markets; ringfaced stock \$1.75-\$1.85 f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Elbertas \$2.50-\$2.75 in Chicago. New York and midwestern yellow onions slightly weaker at \$1.40-\$1.75 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.30-\$1.40 f.o.b.

Top price on hogs at Chicago was \$11.50, or 65 cents lower than a week ago. Beef steers ranged from steady to 75 cents higher, heifers, cows and vealers increased from 25 to 35 cents, while heavy calves remained steady. Stocker and feeder steers, fat lambs and yearling wethers went up from 25 to 50 cents, fat ewes, steady, with feeding lambs ranging from 25 cents higher to 25 cents lower.

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.38-\$1.42. No. 2 red winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.33-\$1.35. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.27 $\frac{1}{2}$. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.30-\$1.40. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 95¢; Minneapolis 88-89¢; Kansas City 89-92¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 98¢; Kansas City 94-96¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 97¢; Minneapolis 92-93¢; Kansas City 92-95¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 89-92¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 48-51¢; Minneapolis 45-46¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 42 points, closing at 20.17¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 43 points, closing at 20.48¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 39 points, closing at 20.45¢.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 48¢; Chicago 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Philadelphia 49¢; Boston 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 21, | Sept. 20, | Sept. 21, 1926 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 20 Industrials | | 196.36 | 196.97 | 157.56 |
| 20 R.R. stocks | | 139.93 | 140.19 | 120.71 |

(Wall St. Jour., Sept. 22.)

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 71

Section 1

September 23, 1927

CATTLE PRICES

A Kansas City dispatch to the press to-day reports that a load of fifteen choice Hereford steers brought an average price of \$203.67 each on the livestock market there yesterday. They sold at \$15.50 a hundred pounds, setting a record high price since 1919.

IOWA FARM CREDIT

A Des Moines dispatch to-day reports that delegates to the CORPORATION annual Farmers' Union State Convention at Des Moines voted unanimously yesterday to establish a \$100,000 credit corporation.

This was declared to mark a long forward stride for cooperative work in the union and is expected by optimistic delegates to be the forerunner of action in other States. The report says: "According to the terms of the resolution the corporation is to be financed by the sale of \$50 life memberships. Income derived from the fund thus accumulated is to be applied to expenditures for State educational purposes, replacing the customary drive for funds for that work. The principal will be rediscounted, either through intermediary ranks or through the cooperative banks of the union, and thus secured, will be used as a source of credit for Iowa agrarians."

PALESTINE ADMITS

FARM TOOLS A Jerusalem dispatch to the press to-day states that a new ordinance promulgated yesterday exempts from duty agricultural machinery, implements, tools and spare parts, including milking machines, incubators and tractors. Manufactured goods ordinarily paid a duty of 11 per cent.

FOREIGN TRADE

The press September 22 reports that speaking September 21 at a meeting in New York, Dr. Julius Klein, Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, discussed American trade relations with Europe. Taking as his subject "The Coming Competition with Europe," Doctor Klein said that "one of the first repercussions of the business comeback of Europe is the increasingly evident preparation for an aggressive drive for foreign markets--not simply to recover the pre-war trade but rather to capitalize vastly increased new opportunities which have developed since 1918." The first evidences that Europe is succeeding in this aim, according to Doctor Klein, is in the fact that the European percentage of the foreign trade of almost every part of the world, and especially in South America, is rapidly increasing so that even Germany has almost regained its pre-war volume of export trade to Central and South America and is making rapid gains in trade to the United States.

FORESTRY CONFERENCE

CALLED The press to-day reports that the Chamber of Commerce of the United States has called a commercial forestry conference, the first of its kind, representing all types of wood-using industries and forest owners in all parts of the country, to meet at Chicago Nov. 16 and 17, to consider the first steps to be taken by forest owners toward solution of their problems on a national basis.

Section 2

Canadian Farm Labor According to a statement by the Canadian Pacific Railroad, 150 young men, trained on the farms at Brandon and Claydon, England, by the Ministry of Labor of the British Government, have this season moved through the agency of the Canadian Pacific Railway into agricultural employment in Western Canada. The individual to secure highest marks at each camp was awarded a monetary prize by President Beatty of the railroad, and guaranteed work at current wages at the Supply Farm of the C.P.R. at Strathmore, Alberta. "Ranging in age from 19 to 27 years," says the railroad, "these men, representing all manners of trades and callings, were taken from the dole and unemployment agencies and, after being certified fit for overseas settlement, subjected to four or five months' training of an intensive and comprehensive character to equip them with a practical working knowledge of the rudiments of Western Canadian farming. Special emphasis at these training camps is laid upon the everyday operations of the farm, such as familiarity with farm implements, the care and milking of cows and the feeding and harnessing of horses...."

Chemical Progress Commerce and Finance for September 21 quotes the following from the Industrial Bulletin of Arthur D. Little, Inc.: "In answer to the question, 'How, in your opinion, can money, in large amount, best be made to-day?' one of the outstanding figures in the generation of industrialists now passing is reported to have said, 'In my time the way, to do it was through control of natural resources. To-day, it can best be done through control of chemical processes.' The essential soundness of his conclusion is amply demonstrated by many developments of the last few years. Among the multitude of instances which might be cited one need only refer to the Duco finishes, Bakelite, nitrogen fixation, artificial silk, the cracking processes for gasoline, calcium carbide and acetylene, synthetic methanol, and the \$40,000,000 valuation placed by the stock market on a process for the manufacture of butyl alcohol. To bring such developments through to the point where their earning power is established much money is required, and it must be money of the sort which Dr. John E. Teeple, Treasurer of the American Chemical Society, has recently defined as 'money that is educated, money that is accustomed to distinguish between a day dream and a real vision that can be logically supported, money that is content to build slowly and constructively, looking for its return five or ten years ahead.' It was the scarcity of educated money in this country in 1901 which caused the viscose patents for artificial silk to be sold at auction for \$2,500, and which for many succeeding years diverted into English pockets the enormous profits of rayon manufacture in America. Even to-day it is extremely difficult for the sponsors of a new chemical process to find, in adequate amount, money with the vision to recognize its potentialities and the courage and tenacity to carry through the necessary stages of development...."

Cotton Farming An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for September 22 says: "To an outside observer cotton farming looks like a game of starving one year in hopes of getting plenty to eat the next. Often the hope is not realized and the period of hunger is extended for another season. The producer blames the spinner, the cotton exchanges and 'Wall Street,' but never thinks to blame himself. Most of his troubles originate at home, and in the system of which he forms a part. Texas may be taken

as an illustration. It seems as if nature planned that State for cotton production. Yet over a long period of years the yield per acre is steadily dwindling. If a factory making shoes turned out less and less every year with the same equipment, the board of directors would seek the cause and demand a remedy. Probably they would demand increasing efficiency in production. Root rot takes a heavy toll of Texas cotton. Farmers call it 'alkali' and with almost Mohammedan fatalism resign themselves to it. Their soil is being depleted yet they scoff at the idea of building it up and conserving it. Here and there are men who listen to the teachings of cotton scientists; but as a whole they seem to resent the suggestion that anything better could be done. In this respect the fault rests squarely upon the farmer; he alone can remedy this. Then there is the question of quality. Texas cotton no longer commands the premium it once did. It seems stupid to persist in a system which means a continuous lowering of quality. In this the individual farmer can do little to help himself; team work is necessary. Under the present system of country town buying, producers of good and poor cotton get about the same price. To encourage production of good and discourage the poor is a community task. All cotton should be graded and classed, and a selling system established which will pay a man for what he produces. Each community should adopt a type of cotton most suitable for it. The present system of cotton farming is stupid and wasteful. Individual and community enterprise can make it pay three square meals a day and maintain a deposit account at the bank."

Dairy Exposition Manufacturers Record for September 22 says: "Southern agricultural leaders view as an event of the happiest significance the coming to the South of America's greatest annual agricultural classic--the National Dairy Exposition. The selection of Memphis for this great gathering of the Nation's dairying forces is taken by agricultural observers at large as evidence that the Nation at last has recognized the importance of the dairying industry in the South, particularly as regards future possibilities. The twenty-first annual National Dairy Exposition will open its doors at Memphis on October 15, continuing through October 22, in conjunction with the Tri-State Fair. This means bringing before the people of the South for the first time the dairy show cows of the Nation--the finest Guernseys, Jerseys, Holsteins, Ayrshires and Brown Swiss animals in the country. It means putting before the ambitious dairymen of the Southern States all the modern machinery, appliances, facilities and equipment having to do with successful dairying...."

Dairy Industry Education An editorial in The Dairy Record for September 14 says: "The Dairy School is not a place to send only the boys who have made a failure of every task which they have attempted. Its successful graduates are men of the same initiative, ability and intelligence as those of the medical, law or engineering schools....The Dairy School is no place for young men who give every evidence that they would be unsuccessful in any line of endeavor. Dairy manufacturing requires brains, and dairy schools can not put brains into a man's head. There are certain boys who never should go to college, and unloading this type upon the dairy industry will help neither the industry nor those boys. I do not recall an industry to-day which offers the same opportunities to intelligent young men as the dairy business. It is a practically new field and new opportunities are being opened almost daily...."

Rural Sociology An editorial in Commercial West for September 17 says: "It is becoming more difficult each day to say whether this man or woman walking along the street or trading in our stores is from a farm or is a city dweller. Time was, and not so very long ago, either, when it was an easy matter to pick out the farm man or woman--their clothes were just that far enough behind the times to make the designation easy. Not so to-day, however. Times have changed. The farmer and his lady wear just as up-to-date clothes as the city man and his wife. That this is true is borne out by a recent statement issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. This department has been making a study of clothing worn by the city dweller as against that of his country cousin, and it finds that the man on the farm spends practically as much for clothes as the urban citizen....And why should not the farm family be as well clothed as the city family? Farm environment has changed mightily in the past dozen years. For one thing the sons and daughters of progressive farmers have been spending their winters at the agricultural colleges and the universities of their States. Here they naturally adapt themselves to conditions surrounding them, and they learn to dress smartly and to acquire those attributes of speech and action that are supposed to mark the better bred of our people. They take these things back to the farm and mother and dad are encouraged to 'spruce' up. Our improved rural consolidated schools are responsible for starting the children of the farm family in this trend toward better dress and gentler manners, and the progress of the farm family from that time on is toward these finer things. As the second generation steps into control it finds the farm environment already established and the children of that period vary no jot or tittle from those of the city....And that is as it should be. There is no more dignified business in the world than that of farming, and, if he so desires, the farmer of to-day can keep just as well abreast of the times as the most progressive of his city neighbors."

Scottish Milk The Scottish Farmer for September 10 says: "Three organizations Pool Problems connected with the business of milk distribution in the City of Glasgow and neighborhood held a meeting in Glasgow on Monday. At the close it was publicly announced that agreement had been reached not to recognize the proposed Milk Selling Agency. Failing compliance with their request to the Executive of the National Farmers' Union to open negotiations for the coming year on the basis of collective bargaining, we understand this resolution to mean that the distributors revert to the old principle of dealing with the individual producer. This means the adoption of the principle that it is easier to break a bundle of sticks when each stick in the bundle is taken by itself than when an attempt is made to break the bundle as a unit....Dairy farmers--milk producers are now on their mettle. Monday's resolution may be a piece of bluff, but producers will be well-advised not to treat it as such....The next step on the part of the Milk Selling Agency may be crucial for the milk producers of Scotland. It may determine what is to be their fate for the next 20 years. They have taken a long step forward by organizing the Milk Selling Agency, and obtaining the amount of adherence to it that has been secured. The former announcement by distributors had a most salutary effect upon producers; they rallied to the agency as they had not previously done; many of them for the first time realized what they were up against; they set their teeth and looked like men who meant to win through. They must not falter now. No doubt it is the fact that some producers have

September 23, 1927.

been intimidated by the distributors and have withdrawn from the agency which encouraged the joint meeting of Monday to adopt the attitude as reported. Better therefore never to have mooted the idea of a milk pool than to falter now. What the promoters of the agency have to guard against is the effect upon their adherents of an intimidating policy on the part of the distributors. That such a policy will be adopted is to be accepted as almost inevitable. It is to be presumed that the N.F.U.(Scotland) will stand to its guns; that its executive will repeat the formula to which it has already given expression, viz., that the distributors must negotiate with the agency into which its milk committee has been merged. If it does this, and we can not see that it has any other choice, then undoubtedly the attack of the distributors will be concentrated upon the individual producer. He will require to stiffen his backbone, and to fortify himself by summoning to his aid all the independence of character with which he is credited. . . ."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products September 22: Potatoes firm in Chicago: slightly weaker in other cities. Pennsylvania Round Whites sold at a general range of \$1.90-\$2.35 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern markets. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.85-\$2 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.60 f.o.b. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes generally lower at \$1.50-\$2.50 per barrel in leading eastern markets. Maryland and Delaware yellows 75¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in the East. New York and Midwestern yellow onions nearly steady at \$1.35-\$1.90 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.25-\$1.40 f.o.b. Eastern Wealthy apples firm at \$1.50-\$2 per bushel basket. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50-\$8 per barrel in Chicago.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$11.60, or 50 cents lower than a week ago. Beef steers ranged from 25 cents lower to 25 cents higher, heifers and cows showed an upward trend, vealers and heavy calves, steady to \$1 higher, and stocker and feeder steers, steady to 50 cents higher. Fat lambs and yearling wethers showed an increase of 60 cents to \$1, fat ewes remained steady, and feeding lambs 15 cents lower to 25 cents higher.

Grain prices quoted September 22: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.27-\$1.50. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.28; Kansas City \$1.33-\$1.36. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.27. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.29-\$1.40. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 95¢; Minneapolis 88-89¢; Kansas City 89-90¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 99¢; Kansas City 94-96¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 95-97¢; Minneapolis 92-93¢; Kansas City 89-90¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 89-90¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 49-51¢; Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 47-50¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 20 points, closing at 19.97¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were down 28 points, closing at 20.20¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 18 points, closing at 20.27¢.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 48¢; Chicago 45½¢; Philadelphia 49¢; Boston 47½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 22, | Sept. 21, | Sept. 22, 1926 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 194.65 | 196.36 | 156.65 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 138.51 | 139.93 | 120.28 |
| (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 23.) | | | | |

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 72

Section 1

September 24, 1927

BUSINESS CONDITIONS Dun's Review to-day says: "It is evident that potential requirements remain heavy in many lines, yet immediate needs are not generally pressing, and buying is not hastened by apprehensions of a scarcity of supplies or by rising prices. Fewer advances occurred in wholesale quotations this week and declines predominated outside the foodstuffs group, with a check to the upturn in hides and cotton goods and some further easing in steel products. The slow development of the expected autumn revival of demand in the latter field has served to temper the more favorable phases in some other quarters, but there is encouragement in the fact that railroads, which had been deferring important commitments, have begun to make more substantial inquiries for material. Another hopeful sign in the commercial situation is the betterment in the agricultural outlook, broadly viewed, and trade conditions in the Northwest and in the South are distinctly more promising...."

WORLD ECONOMIC BODY

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Geneva says: "The assembly of the League of Nations decided last night to create a new organism for carrying out the resolutions of the recent International Economic Conference. A consultive committee of thirty-five members will be established and Americans as individuals, although not as representatives of the American Government, will be invited to sit upon this committee. Persons prominent in industry, commerce, agriculture, finance and transport will be invited to participate. The assembly report, submitted by M. Loucheur of France, emphasized the great importance of having agricultural interests represented in the League's economic activities and that efforts should be exerted to obtain increased production, the reduction of prices and improvement in the conditions of labor. The resolution, approved by the assembly, voices the hope that the recommendations of the Economic Conference relating to tariffs and commercial policy will be put into effect by treaties aimed at evolving common lines of policy among the nations 'beneficial to all and not subject to the uncertainties of purely bilateral bargaining.'...."

FRUIT RATES

A protest against the recent order of the Interstate Commerce Commission postponing a rate reduction on deciduous fruits from California to the East was filed yesterday by the California Growers and Shippers' Protective League, according to the press to-day. It declared that railroads affected by the reduction were "going into a court of competent jurisdiction to seek an authoritative determination of the constitutionality of the Hoch-Smith resolution," and that in consequence no delay in the application of the commission's ruling was needed. Further, the protest declared that any postponement of a reduction would be a great burden upon the California fruit shippers, particularly the grape producers, whose crop is now beginning to move to market.

Section 2

Combine South Dakota Farmer and Breeder for September 15 says: "The usefulness change from the binder and header to the combine this season has been fairly revolutionary. We have no figures, but apparently one-quarter of the splendid grain crop of central South Dakota was combined. In many sections entire townships employed no other method. Within our observation there was small wastage from overripe or fallen grain. The machine picked it all up with as small loss as any mechanical device could do. The most serious problem has been in handling the uncured grain in granaries and elevators. This phase has presented some serious problems, but apparently these are being solved. Farmers have learned that this grain must be kept in small lots during the sweating process, and where too green, plank cut in short pieces and inserted upon end in the bins will accelerate the absorption of the moisture in the grain. The consensus of opinion among the farmers is that the contraption has come to stay."

Cotton Marketing An editorial in The Wall Street Journal for September 23 says: "There is a tendency to congratulate the farmers of the South on their outlook this season. The great increase in the money value of the cotton, they are told, will make them prosperous. But just what constitutes prosperity? If being able to pay up a goodly percentage of the debts contracted and losses suffered a year ago means prosperity, the cotton farmers are prosperous....The enormous crop of 1926 passed into consumption and the farmers received for it an average price far below the official estimate of what it cost them to produce it. Now that it is gone and, under the fear of a short crop this year, prices have touched 25 cents, the farmers are looking back and blaming 'market manipulators.' They are correct, only they do not recognize the real market manipulator. If the cotton producers as a whole want to see the real 'market manipulator,' a good look into a mirror will show them. The South itself, hanging on to its uneconomic system of production and marketing its great money crop is the real manipulator. It violates everything that stands for balanced farming; it retains a worn-out share system that keeps both cropper and land owner poor in a large portion of the belt; it gets a minimum of what the land can produce and generally at a maximum of expense. This system makes for no progress, and while everything else is going forward, keeps the farmers down. They do not produce as cheaply as they might; they get a minimum return from the soil, and year after year they are compelled to market a 12-month supply of cotton almost as rapidly as it is baled. Necessity knows no law, but just the same the economic law of supply and demand works, and the South makes it work against itself...."

Dairy Industry An editorial in Farmstead, Stock and Home for September 15 says: "The economic effect of the increase in the production of butter, milk and other dairy products is being seriously considered by dairy organizations all over the country. The fear of overproduction is being voiced in many quarters of the dairy industry at this time, and well it is so. The increase of production to a point where the domestic supply of dairy products surpasses the domestic demand is by no means impossible to reach, and that in but a comparatively short period of time....The following excerpts from a statement made by the New Orleans Association of Commerce are significant: 'The increase in dairying in Southern States has developed problems in milk marketing.'

Many distant farmers are looking to New Orleans as a market for whole milk. This is not advisable because at present the city is receiving more milk than it can use. The surplus in one New Orleans milk plant is being condensed in order to find a market for it.' It is high time that those leaders in the dairy industry who are sincerely concerned in maintaining the industry upon a profitable basis for the producers, took stock of the economic position of dairying the country over, and used their influence to counteract the ill-advised hue and cry to make every farmer a dairyman...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 23. Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.28-\$1.56. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.30; Kansas City \$1.34-\$1.37. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.29. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.29; Kansas City \$1.30-\$1.41. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 96¢; Kansas City 89-91¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 90-94¢; Minneapolis 88-89¢; Kansas City 88-90¢. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 98¢; Kansas City 94-96¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 96¢; Minneapolis 92-93¢; Kansas City 93-95¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 88-90¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 48-51¢; Minneapolis 46-47¢; Kansas City 47-50¢.

Pennsylvania sacked Round White potatoes about 15¢ lower at \$2-\$2.15 per 100 pounds in eastern markets. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites firm at \$1.60-\$1.90 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.50-\$1.60 f.o.b. Waupaca. Sweet potatoes unsettled. Virginia yellow varieties ranged \$1.50-\$3.25 per barrel in distributing centers. Street sales of New Jersey yellow varieties \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in New York City. Apple prices firm. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$5.75 per barrel in New York City. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50-\$8 in Chicago. New York Domestic type cabbage fairly steady at \$14-\$18 bulk per ton in eastern markets; \$8 f.o.b. Rochester.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$11.70, or 30 cents less than a week ago. Beef steers were 25 cents lower to 25 cents higher, heifers and cows continued upward, vealers and heavy calves, steady to \$1 higher, and stocker and feeder steers, fat lambs and yearling wethers ranged from steady to 50 cents higher. Fat ewes remained steady and feeding lambs ranged from 15 cents lower to 25 cents higher.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 48¢; Chicago 45½¢; Philadelphia 49¢; Boston 47½¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 21 points, closing at 20.18¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 18 points, closing at 20.38¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 24 points, closing at 20.51¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 23, | Sept. 22, | Sept. 23, 1926 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| | 20 Industrials | 195.42 | 194.65 | 156.96 |
| | 20 R.R. stocks | 138.79 | 138.51 | 120.97 |
| (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 24.) | | | | --- |

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 73

Section 1

September 26, 1927.

FOREIGN MARGARINE COMBINE An Associated Press dispatch from London to-day reports the formation of a big margarine combine. The report says: "An international syndicate has acquired the controlling interest in the Jurgens, Ltd., and Vondon-Borgs, Ltd., undertakings in all countries. These two concerns control nearly the whole margarine trade in Europe, and the merger incidentally terminates a rivalry of a generation between two merchant families."

FIG TREES FOR RUBBER An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Pasadena, Calif., states that Dr. Frederick Osius, rubber specialist, announced September 24 that his initial experiments in extraction of rubber from fig trees has proved successful. Doctor Osius said that rubber in commercial quantities may be obtained from the panache, or French fig, and that the common California varieties, the Kadota and the Adriatic, are being subjected to research processes now. He said he had produced a fine piece of rubber from panache milk.

NEW YORK MILK SUPPLY The New York Times of yesterday states that Health Commissioner Harris sent a letter September 24 to C. E. Clyde Potts of Morristown, N.J., president of the New Jersey State Board of Health, appealing for the cooperation of the New Jersey health department in an effort to check what Doctor Harris says is a threatened influx of bootleg cream and milk into New York City. The period of scarcity, which is now beginning and which will reach its maximum around Thanksgiving, lasts until after January 1, and Doctor Harris is convinced, he says, that the menace to health is real.

BUILDING DECLINE Building permits for the first half of 1927 covered an expenditure of \$1,381,910,891 in eighty American cities of 100,000 population or more, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which recently completed a survey of the subject. Of these eighty cities, seventy-eight a year ago reported for the first half of 1926, showing permits covering an expenditure of \$1,474,785,929. All kinds of new buildings--dwellings, stores, factories--were covered by the survey. The cities included in the survey provided dwellings in new buildings for 201,685 families in the first six months of 1926 and for only 187,133 families in the first six months of this year, a reduction of 7.3 per cent. In the first half of 1926 the number of families provided for in one-family dwellings was 36.7 per cent of all families provided for in new residences. In the corresponding period of 1927 this percentage had fallen to 34.6 per cent.

Section 2

"Buying Power" Butter, Cheese & Egg Journal for September says: "....We like in Creamery the term 'buying power' as representing increased investment and increased volume of business. With increased buying power the creamery-man is in better position to serve his cream patrons and his butter customers. He may be forced to use his buying power more than he likes to, but in the long run it is a blessing to him and the people he serves. There are many men in other lines of business who might well study the buying power of the creamery industry. Some of them are doing it. They have goods to sell that the creameryman might profitably use in his business. The other day we compared a recent issue of the Butter, Cheese & Egg Journal with one published five years ago. Many new lines were represented in the current issue. Business men are learning of the buying power of the creamery industry...."

Cotton Markets

In an article on the cotton crop of 1927, "F.J.C." writing in Commerce Monthly (New York) for September, says: "....In the meantime, with prices fully recovered from the decline of last fall, there is little evidence that textile sales will be restricted, but there is even less reason to foresee any new boom in the world's cotton-manufacturing industry. That the enormous volume of goods sold at wholesale by mills in the United States in the first six months of 1927 was quite as much as the retail trade could absorb is suggested by the sales record for July, which showed totals considerably below those for the same month a year ago and some decline in the large volume of unfilled orders which had been on hand at the beginning of the month. The extraordinary export of 2.9 million bales of cotton to Germany in the past twelve months in comparison with 1.7 million shipped to that market in the previous year shows clearly how rapidly Central Europe has been regaining its old-time position as a customer of the American planter. In the Far East, however, the turmoil which has accompanied the advance of the Chinese Nationalists into the northern provinces and the recent imposition of a 12½ per cent tax by these authorities on imports into Shanghai has made business more difficult for Japanese exporters in particular and forced them to make a strong bid for other markets. British mills feel this competition in their eastern sales. Mill men in India have been complaining vigorously of the competition in the home market and have sought unsuccessfully for Government assistance. On the whole the world's cotton-mill industry seems to be in a fairly favorable position, but in view of the considerable supplies available in secondary markets it can not be expected that the demand for cotton from the United States will reach the enormous totals of the year just passed...."

Farm Power

An editorial in Farm Implement News (Chicago) for September 15 says: "Frequent references have been made during the past year to the relation between production per worker and power employed per worker in various industries, in particular agriculture....One rather important factor in this discussion of power and production as regards agriculture seems to have been overlooked. The agricultural worker who raises crops is using primary power at its source, nor does he pay for that power. Heat is power unharnessed, and whenever sunlight falls on a growing field of grain or grass, the farm worker is utilizing the

energy of that heat to stimulate plant growth. Even the heat which to our human nerves seems 'cold' is power taken advantage of by the farm worker. For the alternate freezing and thawing of a rough plowed field will produce a finer degree of tilth than soil cultivation many times repeated at the cost of much animal or mechanical power. A scientist could estimate the average number of B.t.u's. that strike a field of grain during the growing season in various latitudes. One might make a guess at the efficiency of the plants in utilizing this energy. At its least, the total energy would be beyond ordinary comprehension, and it would be utilized according to the plan of the farm worker. With this view of the question, we hazard the statement that the farm worker is the greatest user of power in his productive operations, but that he normally reeds even more than he uses. The energy used in a factory by the operator of the steam drop hammer is as a fly's kick in comparison."

Farm Taxation An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for September 17 says: "....What can any industry hope for when it must pay 83 per cent of its net income for State and Federal taxes? Yet, that is what agriculture is doing, while the other industries, taken as a whole, are paying on an average only a little above 30 per cent, or slightly more than one-third that agriculture is paying. Of course, these figures do not mean that those engaged in agriculture are paying more per man in taxes, but a bigger percentage of their net income. Farmers have had comparatively little net income in the past five years, but to take 83 per cent of that small amount for State and Federal taxes is unfair, to say the least of it. Of course, taxes must be paid. Money must be had to run the Government, but it is only fair that those who have the biggest income should pay the biggest part of it. We need to bestir ourselves through organization and otherwise, to bring about a more equitable basis of taxation, and reduce the per cent of the net income that farmers pay for taxes to the per cent paid by other industries."

New York Food An editorial in The Washington Post for September 24 says:
Frauds "Throughout the late campaign in New York State much was said and heard concerning the alleged graft in the matter of controlling the milk supply of Manhattan. Months after the close of that campaign the alleged grafters, or a great many of them, were indicted and they are still to be tried. In the meantime the attorney general of the State started an investigation into the manner in which the poultry business of the City of New York is conducted. He learned enough to convince him that there exists 'a combination in restraint of trade' and a conspiracy among the lessees of the poultry slaughtering establishments which has a bad effect alike upon the pocketbooks and the health of the poultry buyers. Attorney General Ottinger learned enough to convince him that the poultry slaughter house trust was a very effective organization which had the dealers 'by the throat,' that it not only fixed the prices of fowl, but controlled the sales of every slaughter house to individual dealers and compelled the dealers to trade only with the houses designated by the trust. The trust has learned that the attorney general and the health commissioner mean business and it has promised to reform and mend its ways. No sooner is the milk situation clarified and the promise of fair dealing in the poultry trade assured than the Gothamites are confronted with another food scandal. The butter man has been hauled up on to the carpet to explain how it is that he is

selling butter which contains 5 or 6 per cent more moisture than the law allows. It seems that the people of New York like to be fooled, and it is not until the law officers of the State or the health authorities of the city interfere that the wise residents of Manhattan realize how badly they are being done by the dealers from whom they buy their supplies...."

Tobacco Trade An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for September 24 says: "In a review of the world trade in tobacco the New York Trust Company emphasizes the preponderant importance of the United States as an exporter. This country produces one-third of the world output of tobacco but it accounts for 45 per cent of total world exports. In spite of the enormous consumption of tobacco, the export trade is limited to a very few countries because the large producing areas, such as India, China, and Japan, consume practically all the tobacco grown within their boundaries and import a certain amount in addition. With a production about one-fifth that of the United States, the Dutch East Indies holds first place on a percentual basis as exporter of tobacco. The ratio of exports to output is in fact 84 per cent and some of the choicest grades of this East India tobacco enter the United States in spite of the very high tariffs that must be paid. The fact that this East Indian tobacco is cigar tobacco explains why a great exporting country should be buying contemporaneously from other parts of the world. Differences of this sort insure a perpetuation of international trade in tobacco, no matter how great an amount is domestically grown. The New York Trust Company calls attention, however, to a tendency to substitute foreign tobacco for the American product in a number of European countries. For instance, there has been a reduction in Italian demand for United States dark tobacco due to expansion of domestic production. Loss of Polish trade has also followed buying agreements with Italy. These recent developments help to explain recent sharp reductions in acreage in the black tobacco belt of Kentucky and Tennessee. Meanwhile Northern Europe, including the Scandinavian countries, have increased their purchases of American tobacco. Great Britain, on the contrary, has been importing more tobacco from her own colonies. The wide distribution of our trade and the shifts that are constantly occurring in the volume, and direction of consumptive demand suggest the need for an especially careful study of foreign markets for this export crop. For some inexplicable reason tobacco is one of those agricultural products that has never received the amount of general attention to which it is entitled because of its importance as an export crop and the basis of a great American industry."

Wool Prices. The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) to-day says: "The wool market is broader and slightly stronger and prices average 1 cent a pound advance in the grease over a fortnight ago, with the tendency against the buyer and all descriptions in demand. Mill buying reflects a healthy situation in the goods markets. Country points are getting well cleaned of wool. The foreign markets are very firm. London has fully maintained opening prices. Australia is a shade against the buyer and South Africa is very firm."

Section 3
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products For the week ended Sept. 23: Pennsylvania sacked Round White potatoes about 15¢ lower at \$2 to \$2.15 per 100 pounds in eastern markets. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites firm at \$1.60 to \$1.90 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.50 to \$1.60 f.o.b. Waupaca. Sweet potatoes unsettled. Virginia yellow varieties ranged \$1.50 to \$3.25 per barrel in distributing centers. Street sales or New Jersey yellow varieties \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel hamper in New York City. Apple prices firm. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$5.75 per barrel in New York City. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50 to \$8 in Chicago. New York Domestic type cabbage fairly steady at \$14 to \$18 bulk per ton in eastern markets; \$8 f.o.b. Rochester.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$11.70, or 30 cents less than a week ago. Beef steers were 25¢ lower to 25¢ higher, heifers and cows continued upward, vealers and heavy calves, steady to \$1 higher, and stocker and feeder steers, fat lambs and yearling wethers ranged from steady to 50¢ higher. Fat ewes remained steady and feeding lambs ranged from 15¢ lower to 25¢ higher. Wholesale prices on fresh western dressed meats at New York were steady to 50¢ higher on steer beef, steady to \$1 higher on veal, a sharp decline of \$2 to \$3 on lamb, \$1 lower to 50¢ higher on mutton, \$1 to \$2 higher on light pork loins and steady on heavy loins.

Butter markets firm at advanced prices. Fancy butter scarce and in active demand. Shortage of top grades made for a liberal use of lower grades, also resulted in active movement out of storage. Production lighter partly due to seasonal change, but also on account of unusual heat in producing sections. Pastures in need of rain.

Cheese markets continue firm although trading is somewhat slower than last week. Buyers showing no disposition to buy ahead. Production showing some reduction, partly due to unfavorable weather and partly to season. Wholesale prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets on Sept. 22, 1927: Single Daisies $25\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Longhorns $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas $25\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Grain markets irregularly higher with conflicting crop news and strength in foreign markets. Wheat prices down 1--2 cents for week but firmer tendency at close. Corn gained 2--7 cents during week with good demand and only moderate offerings. Oats up 2--4 cents during week. Rye steady to slightly firmer.

Hay markets quiet with supplies generally exceeding demand. Poorer pastures stimulating demand some sections. Timothy markets dull, stocks accumulating some points. Western alfalfa markets easier, middle western markets steady. Prairie holding steady with moderate receipts and improved offerings. No. 1 timothy New York \$22.50; Pittsburgh \$17.50; Cincinnati \$15. Memphis \$19. No. 1 alfalfa Kansas City \$18.25; Omaha \$15.50. No. 1 prairie Kansas City \$10.50; Omaha \$11.50.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 45 points during the week, closing at 20.18¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 64 points, closing at 20.38¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were down 44 points, closing at 20.51¢.

Wheatfeed prices held about steady during week. Demand for millfeeds increased slightly. Middlings made further sharp declines from their unusually high levels. Bran slightly lower. Cornfeeds \$1 per ton higher account light production and recent sharp advance in corn prices. Linseed meal steady. Cottonseed meal \$1 lower per ton. Alfalfa meal firm. Minneapolis spring bran \$25.50; standard middlings \$27; 34% linseed meal \$46. Chicago gluten feed \$35; yellow hominy \$38. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 74

Section 1

September 27, 1927.

EGG RECORD

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Omaha, Neb., states that "Babe Ruth," white leghorn hen, laid another egg yesterday, the one hundred and fifty-first in as many days, and is now the possessor of the world's egg-laying championship. The hen, owned by A. R. Lander, of Norfolk, Neb., and kept by the American Milling Company at Omaha, was entered in the national contest of the American Egg-Laying Association May 9 and has laid an egg every day since.

THE CHEMICAL SHOW

The New York Times to-day reports: "The eleventh annual Exposition of Chemical Industries opened yesterday at the Grand Central Palace with an assortment of exhibits which ranged from graphic representations of the structure of the atom to skinless sausages and poker chips made of skim milk. There are 372 exhibitors.... Their products and processes will remain on view throughout this week.... The sausage exhibit showed how modern chemistry has made the sausage skin unnecessary by providing sausage casings of shiny, transparent impalpable cellulose. There were two exhibits of skim milk products. They showed skim milk cheese treated and molded into lamp shades, paper cutters, combs, fountain pens, poker chips, buttons, cigarette holders and other objects. The United States Government has several booths, including those of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce and Chemical Warfare Service...."

GRAIN RATES

Baltimore would outstrip New York as a grain exporting center if it could get more favorable differential freight rates from the West, Eugene H. Beer, Baltimore grain broker, asserted yesterday before an examiner of the Interstate Commerce Commission. He was one of several witnesses in support of a Baltimore plea to that end. Witnesses from New York will soon be heard in opposition. Mr. Beer said grain would follow the cheapest route to the sea, and that Baltimore would afford the cheapest gateway. If the differential was not increased, he said, Baltimore would become barren of its grain export trade and the business would go to New York. He told of a great decline since the war in grain consignments, notwithstanding great improvement in facilities at the Baltimore terminals, and said the differential had been inadequate for twenty years. (Press, Sept. 27.)

INCOME TAX COLLEC- TIONS

The press to-day reports that income tax collections amounting to \$517,000,000 are predicted in estimates laid before Secretary Mellon for the first quarter of the fiscal year 1928, ending September 30, a decrease of \$18,000,000, compared with the corresponding period last year. This apparent decline was explained by Secretary Mellon yesterday as due to a falling off in the back taxes collected by the Treasury this year. Collections of this character have been steadily decreasing for several months. They were larger in July and August, 1926, than in several years.

September 27, 1927.

Section 2

Balkan Conditions Anne O'Hare McCormick writing in The New York Times Magazine for September 18 says in part: "...After several months' observation in the five States loosely called Balkan, because they occupy the Balkan peninsula--Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Greece... I am convinced that the race to catch up with modern civilization represents the most remarkable spurt of human energy and courage manifested anywhere since the war....Bulgaria, most single-minded, brings almost to completion one of the biggest agricultural colleges in the world....It can not be too often repeated that Balkan progress is a continual struggle against the habit of Turkish inertia. Also, the size of the tasks to be accomplished is itself paralyzing. It oppresses even the American visitor, who sees here something like the most undeveloped parts of America, without American freshness, enterprise or variety. American variety? Yes. Preachers against machine-made standardization should come to the Balkans. Here is a rich mixture of races exposed for uncounted centuries to all the differentiating influences of the hand-made. Everything they do, from reaping to woodworking, is done by hand. The wheat they eat is whole and hand-ground. The wool they wear never suffers any but hand processes in going from the sheep's back to their own. Their rugs, kettles, wagons, bedsteads are all made at home. Until recently the Balkan peoples have been uncorrupted and unconnected by the railroad, the newspaper, the moving picture and the factory. Even yet one village is further apart from the next than New Orleans is from Minneapolis. They all speak different languages.... The Balkans show a standardization and a slavery that are not of the machine--and the desperate yearning of the hand-worker for the machine and the machine product. This is not an attempt to 'bulk the Balkans'--the usual easy way to dispose of five emerging peoples whose differences will continue to worry the world for some time to come--but only a reminder that rural populations living in the same neighborhood and under the same conditions become alike for lack of time or opportunity to be different. Now suddenly, through the cinema and the radio, these people see and hear for the first time how the rest of the world lives. A new standardization is hastily superimposed upon the old....Out-of-breath progress is only one note common to all the Balkan States....At least one unanimous sentiment animates the peninsula. All five States agree on the necessity of modernizing and intensifying agriculture. The vast unfinished agricultural college in Sofia is built as a symbol of the farm as the biggest business of an agrarian country. Rumania, having accomplished a great program of land reform, is organizing an impressive scheme for popular agricultural schools. Greece plants experimental stations among the refugee villages and plans to use the schools on Sunday to teach the field workers that the culture of vines, olives and silkworms may be as interesting and rewarding as the study of law or the classics...."

British Farm Relief Country Life (London) for September 17 says: "...It is fairly evident that faith placed in a safeguarding policy for agriculture in the immediate future is doomed to be shattered. Any efforts to achieve this end will undoubtedly prove a waste of time, and will merely conduce to a further period of uncertainty for struggling agriculturists. Unpleasant though the process may be, it is far better to recognize at once that the doctrine of 'self-help' is the surest and safest principle to cling to, and particularly is it so if it can be made the motto not

only of individuals, but of the agricultural industry as a whole. Those who have taken great pains to examine the merits of protection and have been persuaded that in this policy alone lies the salvation of British agriculture, would do well to turn their attention again to the findings of the departmental committee on distribution and prices of agricultural produce in 1924. The chief contention of that committee was, in brief, that the margin 'between producers and consumers is unjustifiably wide.' This problem, of course, is not one which can be easily tackled. It is, at the moment, being faced in other countries beside our own, and in all those countries almost universal agreement obtains. Cooperative marketing is regarded as the only permanent solution to the price problem which does not involve State control or subsidies. The report of the United States Secretary of Agriculture for 1926 makes this point very clearly so far as the United States is concerned. There, legislation has been set on foot to help in the formation and extension of farmer-controlled agencies. The great objection always offered to cooperation from the British farmers' standpoint is the record of failure which has attended the efforts of many cooperative societies established in this country. The same experience was once common in the United States, but whereas in 1923 the failures amounted to 1.9 per cent of all associations, in 1925 the failures were only 0.3 per cent of more than 10,000 associations. When failures occurred, they could be traced to well defined reasons, and it is quite obvious that business acumen is as essential to a farmers' cooperative organization as it is to that of a private trader. If the problems of marketing could be successfully faced, solution would be found certainly for some of the present difficulties in practically all the different departments of agricultural industry...."

Cotton Demand A New Orleans dispatch to the press of September 26 says:

"Despite the much higher prices than a year ago, the spinners of the world are continuing to take cotton in large volume, their takings since August 1 having now reached 1,885,000 bales, or 353,000 bales more than last season for a like period. The daily spot sales in southern markets have been heavy of late, indicating both that farmers are marketing their crops steadily and that buyers, both foreign and domestic, are absorbing the offerings. The mills have been consuming cotton at almost a record rate and they have orders enough in hand to keep their machinery running at full tilt for several months to come. Reports from the cotton goods trade also indicate that the turnout of the mills is moving steadily into consumptive channels."

Cotton Utilization In an editorial September 26, The Washington Post says:....

A ray of hope for the future of the cotton planter has come from an entirely unexpected direction. Parisian designers and modistes have decreed that cotton shall replace velvet and silk as the ultrafashionable fabric for those who would be considered as among the elite of the earth. 'The velvet fashionable in Paris,' says an Associated Press dispatch, 'is cotton velvet, made in the Lancashire cotton district. Opera wraps, shawls, the new short coats, and long coats are all being made in the richest shades of cotton velvet and lavishly embroidered in silver and multicolored silks.' The edict of the Parisian arbiters of fashion would not alone serve to force cotton into the boudoirs of the socially elect. Price has a great deal to do with it, and the moment the mill operator can demand and obtain for his

products prices as high or higher than the cost of heretofore more fashionable material, that moment will success be assured to the cotton crop boosters. The time seems near, for the news from Paris brings the welcome information that 'a yard of the fabric brings \$6 and that a coat was seen at the races which cost \$150 and was made of cotton, in an Egyptian color scheme of pastel green, blue and pink on white, lined with white fur.' "

Electricity in German Slaughter Houses A Munich dispatch to the press of September 25 says: "To make more humane the killing of animals for food purposes the local slaughter houses have experimented for some time with two methods for stupefying cattle by the application of an electric current. According to a report published September 24 the tests were entirely successful. Both systems worked well, but that of Professor Lieben of Prague was adjudged preferable because a current of low tension is used. This makes its application absolutely safe for the butchers, who do not have to fear shocks of great violence. It is expected that in the near future no animals will be killed in German abattoirs unless they are made unconscious by electricity before the knife is applied."

Exhibits

An editorial in Southern Cultivator and Farming for September 15 says: "Our fall fairs are expositions of progress in farming. The principal exhibits are formed of the products of the soil, and of improved livestock and poultry. Farming is the only industry that makes such annual displays of its products, and the modern fair is the out-growth of a custom as old as the business of tilling the soil and improving breeds of domestic animals....The fall fairs of to-day are displays of the results of intelligent efforts to strengthen the foundations formed by the work of the farmer, upon which all industries and all lines of business must depend for support. They are also a means of teaching the farmer how to do his work more efficiently and profitably....."

Farm Machinery An editorial in The American Fertilizer for September 17 says: "A new era in agriculture seems to be at hand through the introduction of new types of machinery....The use of these machines will tend to bring larger farm units, probably with different shaped fields. The chief money crop in most areas will require less manual labor, but the capital invested will be larger. Perhaps wealthy men will work many thousand acres as they now operate factories, or farming corporations may appear, although experience in recent years has not been favorable to such concerns. The motor truck will also be a factor in the new system of farming. City markets a hundred miles away are already accessible to every farmer who owns a truck, and creameries and canning factories have multiplied the number of their potential customers. Current discussion of farm problems has largely overlooked these new factors, which are bound to become more important with the passing years. The farmers found during the war that they could furnish food for half of Europe as well as for the home market. They are still producing so much of several crops--fruits and perishable vegetables for example--that prices are abnormally low. With more machinery they may still further depress prices by means of still larger production."

Radio Service An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for September 17 says: "There are 60,000 radio sets on Ohio farms. Approximately one farm out of every four has a set, according to figures compiled by the United States Department of Agriculture. This is none too many and as soon as the other three-fourths find out the enjoyment that can be had with a good radio set there will be as many radio sets on farms as there are automobiles. And the beauty of a radio set is that a farmer is perfectly justified in giving as his reason for owning one the economic saving that can be secured from market reports and the lectures from the agricultural college. Who of us does not like to give an economic reason for the acquisition of some desired object? It was thus with the automobile, the washing machine, the electric light plant, the labor-saving farm machinery. Properly used all of these things make for more efficient operation and this undoubtedly is the final reason for their purchase, but is not the first reason the greater pleasure and convenience attained..."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 26: Eastern Round White potatoes fairly steady at \$2-\$2.10 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites about steady at \$1.50-\$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.30-\$1.40 f.o.b. Waupaca. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes tending lower at \$1.75-\$3 per barrel in city markets. Maryland yellows 75¢-90¢ per bushel hamper in a few cities. Onions unsettled. New York and Mid-western yellow varieties \$1.30-\$1.90 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.30-\$1.45 f.o.b. Apples firm. New York Wealthys \$5-\$5.50 per barrel in New York City. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50-\$8 in Chicago.

Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$11.95, or 5 cents lower than a week ago. Beef steers were steady to 25 cents lower, heifers increased from 25 to 75 cents, and cows from 25 to 65 cents. Sealers showed a sharp upward turn from 50 cents to \$1.50, heavy calves ranging from steady to \$1 higher and stocker and feeder steers from steady to 25 cents higher. Yearling wethers increased from 25 cents to \$1 and fat ewes and feeding lambs remained steady.

Grain prices quoted Sept. 26: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.29-\$1.57. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.31-\$1.32; Kansas City \$1.36-\$1.40. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.29. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.32; Kansas City \$1.28-\$1.43. No.2 mixed corn Chicago 99¢; Kansas City 92-95¢. No.3 mixed corn Chicago 97¢; Kansas City 90-93¢; Minneapolis 90-91¢. No.2 yellow corn Kansas City 97-99¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 98¢-\$1; Kansas City 96-98¢; Minneapolis 94-96¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 90-93¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 48-52¢; Kansas City 48-50¢; Minneapolis 44-47¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 67 points, closing at 20.84¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 69 points, closing at 21.02¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 64 points, closing at 21.18¢.

Closing wholesale prices of 92 score butter: New York 48½¢; Chicago 46¢; Philadelphia 49½¢; Boston 47½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 75

Section 1

September 28, 1927.

REPORT ON FRENCH TARIFF The press to-day says: "A report made by the Tariff Commission on the effect of the new French duties against American goods and of the possible effect of any retaliatory action by the United States against French exports, was examined by the State Department yesterday in preparing for its consideration of the dispute with France and the negotiations about to be opened for a commercial treaty with that nation. The report was made to the President. Its text was not made public but copies were sent to the State and Commerce Departments, where officials described it as chiefly a review of American tariff history, without recommendations. The commission has prepared lists of French merchandise that would be affected should the United States use its power under Article 317 of the Tariff Act to increase duties 50 per cent against exports from France...."

BUSINESS CONDITIONS Industrial production increased by more than the usual seasonal amount in August and the early part of September, the Federal Reserve Board announced yesterday. It reflected a growth in the output of mines and in the distribution of commodities, both at wholesale and retail. The general level of wholesale prices rose about 1 per cent, the board said, crediting this rise chiefly to advances in the prices of farm products. "The iron and steel industry continued during August and September with little change in demand or in production and the output of newsprint, lumber and cement showed only customary seasonal changes in August," said the board. "Consumption of cotton remained unusually large for this season of the year and there was an increase in the production of automobiles, which, however, remained below the output of August of last year...."

ONE-WAY ROADS PREDICTED An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Philadelphia reports that a Nation-wide network of one-way roads under park restriction, for the use of recreational motorists and designed to lessen traffic congestion and decrease accidents, was predicted yesterday by Albert M. Turner of Hartford, Conn., before the annual convention of the American Institute of Park Executives. "A traffic survey has shown that more than one-half of all motor vehicle mileage is of the non-business or recreational class," Mr. Turner said. "Let us consider the lesson of 100 years' experience in railroads and give up the idea of moving traffic both ways. Roads which we can call fairways should be built entirely of double track. These should be located through cheap and undeveloped lands, well away from the centers of population."

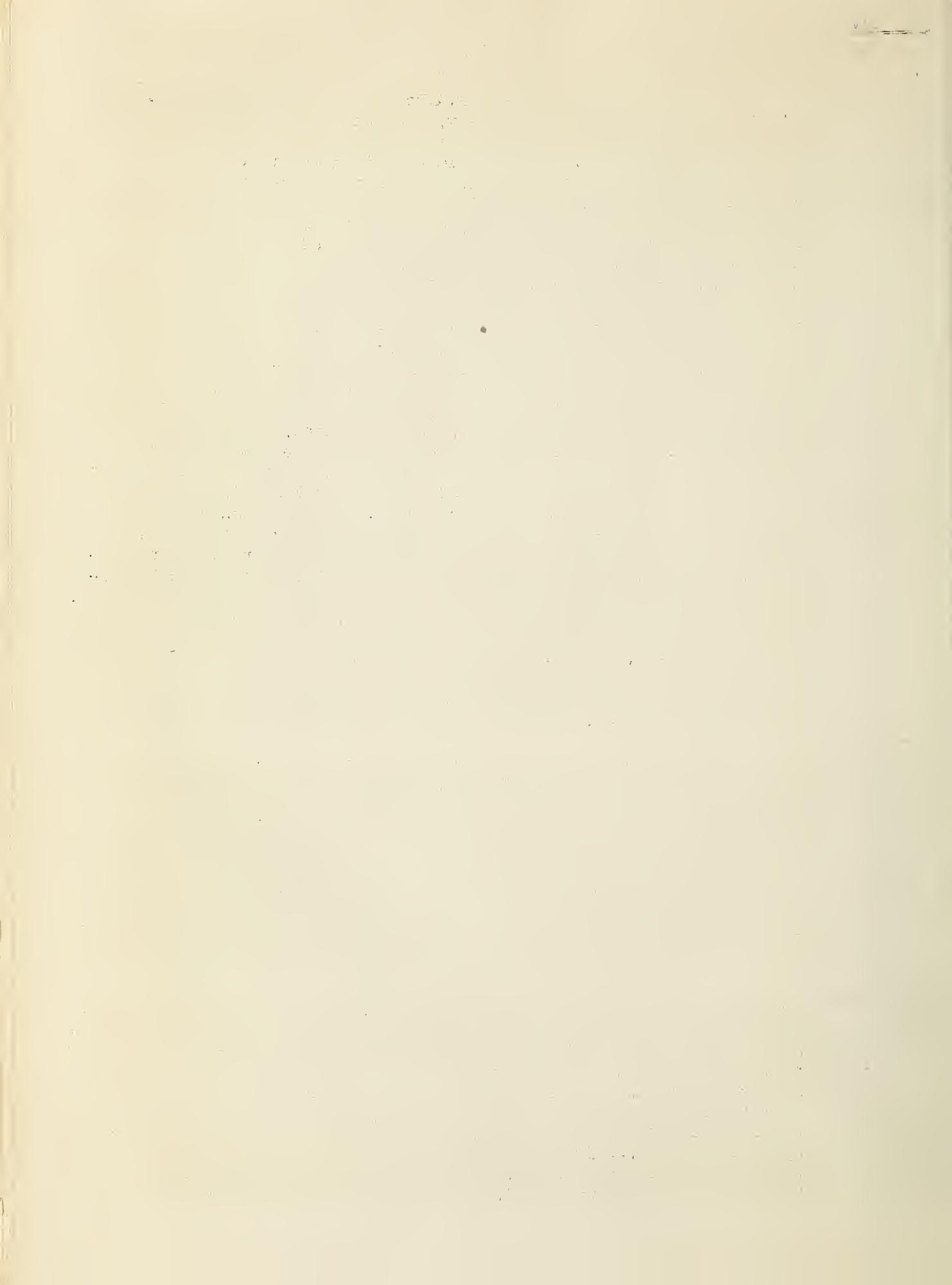
COTTON PICKING MACHINES The press to-day reports: "Extensive tests are being conducted with new mechanical cotton-picking machinery by the International Harvester Company this season in Texas. The machines, each operated by two men, have been able to pick from seven to ten acres a day, depending on the terrain, and to take the place of from seven to fifteen handpickers. The percentage of open cotton picked in this manner averages some times above 90 and occasionally as low as 80 per cent...."

18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368
369
370
371
372
373
374
375
376
377
378
379
380
381
382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
445
446
447
448
449
450
451
452
453
454
455
456
457
458
459
460
461
462
463
464
465
466
467
468
469
470
471
472
473
474
475
476
477
478
479
480
481
482
483
484
485
486
487
488
489
490
491
492
493
494
495
496
497
498
499
500
501
502
503
504
505
506
507
508
509
510
511
512
513
514
515
516
517
518
519
520
521
522
523
524
525
526
527
528
529
530
531
532
533
534
535
536
537
538
539
540
541
542
543
544
545
546
547
548
549
550
551
552
553
554
555
556
557
558
559
560
561
562
563
564
565
566
567
568
569
570
571
572
573
574
575
576
577
578
579
580
581
582
583
584
585
586
587
588
589
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647
648
649
650
651
652
653
654
655
656
657
658
659
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
669
670
671
672
673
674
675
676
677
678
679
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697
698
699
700
701
702
703
704
705
706
707
708
709
709
710
711
712
713
714
715
716
717
718
719
719
720
721
722
723
724
725
726
727
728
729
729
730
731
732
733
734
735
736
737
738
739
739
740
741
742
743
744
745
746
747
748
749
749
750
751
752
753
754
755
756
757
758
759
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
789
790
791
792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809
809
810
811
812
813
814
815
816
817
818
819
819
820
821
822
823
824
825
826
827
828
829
829
830
831
832
833
834
835
836
837
838
839
839
840
841
842
843
844
845
846
847
848
849
849
850
851
852
853
854
855
856
857
858
859
859
860
861
862
863
864
865
866
867
868
869
869
870
871
872
873
874
875
876
877
878
879
879
880
881
882
883
884
885
886
887
888
889
889
890
891
892
893
894
895
896
897
898
899
900
901
902
903
904
905
906
907
908
909
909
910
911
912
913
914
915
916
917
918
919
919
920
921
922
923
924
925
926
927
928
929
929
930
931
932
933
934
935
936
937
938
939
939
940
941
942
943
944
945
946
947
948
949
949
950
951
952
953
954
955
956
957
958
959
959
960
961
962
963
964
965
966
967
968
969
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
979
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
989
990
991
992
993
994
995
996
997
998
999
1000

Section 2

Agricultural Dr. G.F.Warren and Prof. F.A.Pearson, Professors of Agricultural Economics at Cornell University, are joint authors of an article entitled "What Ails Agriculture?" in The Farm Journal for October. This says in part: "...A second important factor is that the consumers in America are long distances from the producers. Any change in economic conditions which affects the relation of costs of distribution to retail prices is of supreme importance to American farmers. It is of much less importance to farmers located near consumers. It is often stated that the agricultural depression is world-wide. This is not so. It is not even Nation-wide. Those farmers who retail their own products are doing very well, as a rule. Those who are situated near large markets are, in general, doing well. The Eastern States have suffered less severely than the Western States. The depression in the United States and Canada is more severe than in England, because here consumers are longer distances from producers. The degree of agricultural depression in any particular region depends, then, on the extent to which agriculture is commercialized, and on nearness to the consumer. But it also depends on the financial policy of the country. The depression in England began in the spring of 1921, half a year after it began in the United States. In 1920-21, American farmers had entered the depression period. They made an average of 1.2 per cent on their capital. Deflation had not yet occurred in Denmark. In 1920-21, Danish farmers were having a period of prosperity, and made 5.8 per cent on their capital. Deflation began in Denmark in the summer of 1921, a year after it began in the United States. Profits on Danish farms fell to 0.9 per cent. Inflation again occurred, and for the year 1924-25, the Danish farmers made 6.4 per cent on their capital. Drastic deflation occurred in 1926, and farm profits dropped again to 1.3 per cent. French farmers have had a period of almost continuous prosperity. Only when deflation occurs is there a serious depression."

British Cattle F.W.Harding of the American Shorthorn Breeder's Association, writing in Western Breeders Journal for September 15, says in part: "I have just recently returned from a seven weeks' trip to Great Britain made for the purpose of studying conditions in that country and for the purchase of Shorthorn cattle, including beef and dairy types. My travels gave me an opportunity to visit 30 Dairy Shorthorn herds in England and from 19 of these I selected either bulls or females for importation to the United States. The animals selected possess quality, conformation and milk performance or inheritance that should make them valuable additions to herds in the United States. When it comes to beef type Shorthorns, we have in this country many herds that compare favorably with the best herds in Great Britain.... Comparing agricultural conditions in Great Britain and here, our live-stock men and farmers are in the better position of the two. With commercial beef cattle selling here practically as high as in Great Britain, with finishing feeds costing more over there, and with the dairy farmer of Britain receiving not more than 75 per cent of the price for milk received by the dairy farmer here, all total to an advantage in our stock breeder's and farmer's favor; that I am sure is not fully appreciated here....I want to speak of the quality of meats one is served in Great Britain. I think it is the exception when a poor quality cut of beef is served. The breeding of their beef cattle is



probably no better than here. Beef cattle are just as well or better finished here than in Great Britain or anywhere, but here the channels of trade absorb dairy cows and steers produced from the dairy breeds of cattle which total 30 per cent in weight of the aggregate beef supply in the United States...."

British Spinning Trade The New York Times of September 27 states that a special report on the Manchester cotton trade situation, made to The London Economist concludes that "many leading men in the trade have come to the conclusion that matters can be adjusted only by the process of the survival of the fittest, and that some of the inefficient mills and firms may be forced ultimately to go to the wall." Regarding the general condition of the industry, the report continues: "The opinion is gaining ground that the only salvation for the Lancashire industry is to be found by a reduction in production costs. At the moment in the American spinning section the output is only about 60 per cent of full time. This curtailment means excessive overhead charges. It is significant that in December last year the Committee of the Master Spinners' Federation decided to abandon the basic prices scheme and organized restriction of output...."

Cuba's Sugar Problem An editorial in Facts About Sugar for September 24 says: "News reports recently appearing in Havana have outlined plans for the regulation of the coming Cuban sugar crop that apparently have the sanction and support of President Machado's administration. Opinions as to the economic wisdom of the policy contemplated naturally differ, but some of the criticism of the proposed plan that has been published in New York is decidedly wide of the mark. Cuba unquestionably has the right to restrict the production of sugar and to regulate its movement and sale without outside interference...."

The Wall Street Journal for September 27 says: "Cuba is faced with a serious problem. For two years, 1925 and 1926, its leading product and main income producer, sugar, sold close to cost, at times actually below cost....This year, though sugar prices have been higher, production has been curtailed, so that the farmers are little better off than a year ago. The next crop is now only 14 weeks away, and Cuba is threatened with another year of low sugar prices--unless she prevents them by artificial means. Cuba's problem is America's interest, not only historically and geographically, but financially. The United States has an investment of some \$1,505,000,000 in the island, of which about \$800,000,000 is in sugar. Cuba is the sixth largest importer of American goods. Last year she purchased \$182,903,618 of goods from this country, and in former years the amount has run above \$500,000,000...."

Horse Meat Rates The press of September 25 reports that the rates charged by railroads on horses shipped for slaughter and ultimate consumption were attacked in a brief filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission September 24 on behalf of the Hugo Straus Packing Company, Inc., of New York.

New York Children's School "Farms" The New York Times of September 27 reports that 80 young "farmers" September 26 took part in the celebration of the harvest festival at the Children's School Farm of the Department of Parks, in Seward Park, New York, in the heart of the lower east side. Twelve

September 28, 1927.

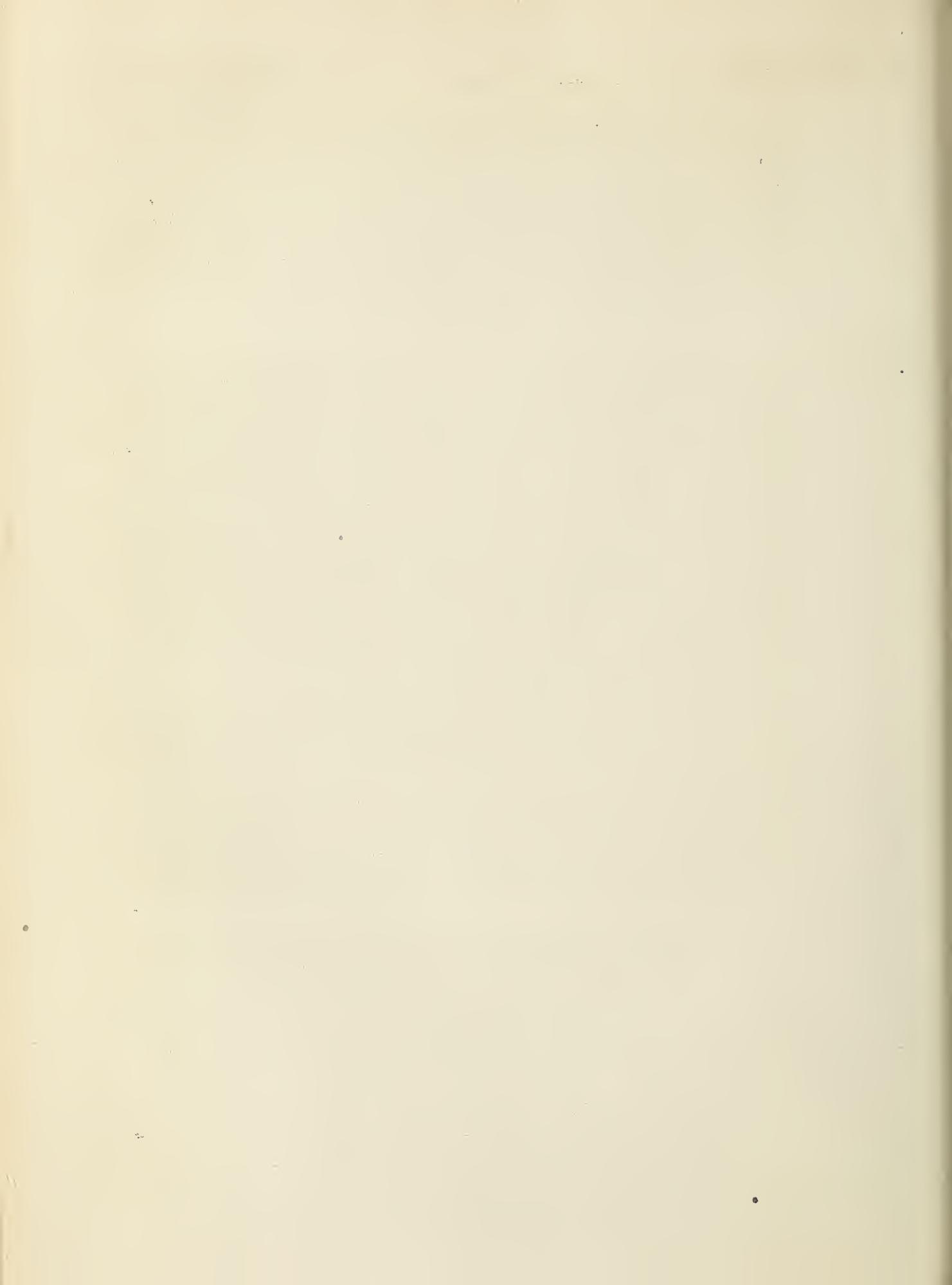
boys and seven girls received prizes for the best cared-for plots. Jonah J. Goldstein, representing the East Side Chamber of Commerce, presented the prizes. "You, the city boy, now understand better the boy on the farm," said Mr. Goldstein in his presentation speech. "You now understand the meaning of the biblical term, 'As ye sow so shall ye reap.' Show your gratitude by being good, God-fearing citizens." Previous to the presentation the children reaped their harvest of radishes, lettuce, Swiss chard, beans, peas and peanuts. One of the boy farmers, a prize winner, raised a huge castor bean plant, and others raised flowers with their vegetable products.

Section 3

Department of Agriculture message transmitting the Federal Budget to Congress last spring

1 President Coolidge made significant reference to the splendid work that is being done under Department of Agriculture auspices to eradicate tuberculosis from all dairy cows supplying milk to the American public. 'The furnishing of pure milk,' said the President, 'is of vital importance to the health of the people. Because of its interstate character it is entirely proper that the Federal Government share with the States the cost of protecting this great food supply. The amount included in the estimates should permit adequate prosecution of the work of eliminating tuberculous cattle from dairy herds. The results of the work already done warrant the belief that we can confidently expect the complete elimination of this menace to health.' Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Federal Department of Agriculture, said at the recent Eastern States tuberculosis conference that while more than 1,000,000 dairy cattle, out of 30,000,000 head tested, have been destroyed, the industry is in much better condition to-day than it was 10 years ago when the campaign against bovine tuberculosis was inaugurated....It is gratifying to hear from the lips of an official engaged in promoting this splendid work that skepticism as to the outcome of the campaign has given way to a felling of assured success; that the subject of tuberculosis eradication is popular and growing in popularity and that now there are few persons connected with the dairying industry in the United States who have not expressed assurance of the success of the campaign and who have not manifested a willingness to cooperate to every reasonable extent to that end."

2 An editorial in Southern Ruralist for October 1 says: "During the summer preparations have been under way by the United States Department of Agriculture, through its Bureau of Agricultural Economics, looking toward the establishment of a service that will issue regularly authentic reports on the commercial grades and staples of cotton.... Thus for the first time in the history of the cotton grower of the South he is to have a service that will give definite information with reference to staple as well as grade. In the past cotton has been bought on grades alone....It is hoped that through unbiased and dependable information about the length of staple that the farmer will be able to secure a better price for a better product when he has produced it....The department has been peculiarly fortunate in its selection of leaders for this work. Dr. B. Youngblood, for many years Director of the Experiment Station in Texas, comes from the Cotton Belt and is familiar with its products and problems. The same is true of



Mr. W.B.Lanham, who also for a long period of years was connected with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, devoting all of his time to a study of the problems of cotton production. Mr. Lanham is immediately in charge of the grade and staple studies, and will spend a great deal of his time in the field with the producers and with the ginners. We would urge our readers, whether they be producers or ginners, to cooperate fully with Mr. Lanham and his coworkers in this new move. It is filled with splendid promise to the entire industry."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 27: Pennsylvania Round White potatoes \$1.85-\$2.10 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.50-\$1.80 carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$2.75 per barrel in most markets. Street sales of New Jersey yellow varieties \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel hamper in New York City. Mid-western yellow onions \$1.25-\$1.75 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; \$1.25-\$1.45 f.o.b. Eastern Wealthy apples \$1.50-\$2.25 per bushel basket in eastern markets; mostly \$1.75 f.o.b. Rochester. Illinois Jonathans \$7.50-\$8 per barrel in Chicago.

Chicago hog prices closed at \$11.90, prices on beef steers choice \$15.15 to \$16.10; heifers, good and choice, \$9.50 to \$14.50; cows, good and choice, \$7.50 to \$10.50; vealers, medium to choice, \$13 to \$17.50; heavy calves, medium to choice, \$7 to \$11; stocker and feeder steers, common to choice, \$7 to \$10.50; fat lambs, medium to choice, \$13.25 to \$14.15; yearling wethers, medium to choice, \$9.25 to \$12.25; fat ewes, common to choice, \$3.75 to \$6.50, and feeding lambs, medium to choice, \$12 to \$14.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 30 points, closing at 21.14¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 38 points, closing at 21.40¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 29 points, closing at 21.47¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.29-\$1.57. No.2 red winter Kansas City \$1.35-\$1.38; Chicago \$1.31. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.30. No.2 hard winter Kansas City \$1.32-\$1.44; Chicago \$1.31. No.2 mixed corn Kansas City 90-93¢; Chicago 98¢. No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 86-87¢; Kansas City 88-91¢; Chicago 96¢. No.2 yellow corn Kansas City 94-96¢; Chicago 98¢. No.3 yellow corn Minneapolis 90-92¢; Kansas City 92-95¢; Chicago 96¢. No.3 white corn Kansas City 88-91¢. No.3 white oats Minneapolis 45-47¢; Kansas City 48-50¢; Chicago 48-51¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

- - -

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 76

Section 1

September 29, 1927

CATTLE PRICES

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Kansas City states that the highest prices for cattle since the World War were paid on the Kansas City market yesterday when 41 head of steers owned by W.T.Belcher, of Carrollton, Mo., brought \$15.75 a hundred pounds. The steers averaged 1,031 pounds and were sold for an average of \$162.38 each. Another lot of 20 steers sold for \$15.70 a hundred pounds and a lot of mixed steers and heifers also established a new top at \$15.10 a hundred pounds.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES EXPOSITION In its report of the exhibits at the Chemical Industries Exposition at New York, The New York Times to-day relates that "fruit ripened by ethylene gas is another one of the chemical miracles performed at the exposition. This is the exhibit of the Matheson Company of North Bergen, N.J. A bunch of green and unripe bananas is placed in a tank containing ethylene gas and in an amazingly brief time becomes yellow and ripe. According to the Matheson chemists, the process does not impair the quality of the fruit in any way. Perfume as a bait for injurious insects was seriously discussed yesterday when Department of Agriculture experts and others visited the perfumery exhibits. Arthur D. Little, a noted chemical engineer, cited the threat of the Japanese beetle pest as offering one of the uses of insect fighting perfume.

EGG RECORD

According to the press to-day, a barred Plymouth Rock hen, owned by the University of Saskatchewan, has made a new record for egg production. Completing her pullet year this new champion has to her credit a total of 339 eggs in 365 days. The report says: "Not only is this a new record for Barred Plymouth Rocks but as far as is known it is a new record for all heavy breed of poultry."

AUSTRALIAN HOME PURCHASING AID

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Melbourne, Australia, states that a total of \$100,000,000 is allotted to a plan to enable Australian subjects to purchase their own homes under the budget for the fiscal year just prepared.

BUFFALO SURPLUS

Twenty years ago, it is estimated, there were not more than 2,000 buffalo in existence; to-day, according to the Department of Interior at Washington, there are nearly 20,000. The increase in the two decades is attributed largely to the efforts of the Government to conserve the animals. The buffalo under the supervision of the Department of the Interior have increased so rapidly in numbers in recent years that the department, as it did a year ago, is offering to dispose of the surplus animals in the great Yellowstone Park herd. This herd, developed from a small nucleus placed in the park several years ago, now numbers 850. While the department officials prefer to dispose of bull buffalo, they will ship cows if especially requested.

Section 2

Agricultural Research President R.W.Thatcher of Massachusetts Agricultural College, writing on Research Work in Agriculture in The Scientific Monthly for October, says: "....The agricultural research institutions themselves are conscious of those three influences--first, the legal; second, the personnel or training of staff; and third, the extension influence in determining the type of problem and method of attack which it is important for these institutions to undertake. Of the three, the second is undoubtedly the most far-reaching in its influence, because of the fact that while these institutions are organizations and have their own methods of administration, after all they are groups of individuals of strong and outstanding characteristics in the field of science. At least, we hope they are. And it would be impossible, even if desirable, to suppress the influence of these strong individuals and of their previous training and experience in fields of science in its effect upon the programs of the institutions. In the second place, it is well to recognize at the outset that these institutions supported with public funds are not organized to do for farms and home makers the things that can just as well be done by the farmers and home makers for themselves, and perhaps be done better by themselves and for themselves. In other words, we ought to recognize, and I think we do recognize, that these are not institutions of practice or of the art of agriculture or the art of home making. The members of the staff are not selected because of their skill in the handicraft of food production. Many of them are better prepared for the service they are to render if they do have the skill and experience required by living in the country and on the farm, but primarily they should be selected, in my judgment, by reason of their scientific training and experience in order that they may bring to the problems of research the method of research. The method of research is scientifically acquired and is not usually acquired merely by experience. There are a few geniuses in research who have not been trained in its method, but most researchers are researchers because they have had long, painful, careful training in the method of research study. Hence, members of research staffs are primarily chosen by reason of their having acquired this technique. It is that type of service which the institutions of agricultural research ought properly to render to the commonwealth, to the State and to the Nation. It would be a prostitution of their best function to say that they are rendering any other type of service, as I see it...."

American Exports Despite a decline in prices, the total value of American exports for the first six months of the year was the largest since 1921, as shown in a bulletin on "Our World Trade" issued to-day by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Exports for the first half of the year amounted to more than two and a third billion dollars, being 7.2% larger than a year ago. This record was accomplished in spite of the fact that the average unit prices of 17 out of 20 leading export commodities were lower than a year ago. "Exports of American finished manufactures," says the chamber, "exceeded one billion dollars for the first time since the first half of 1921, a period of inflated prices. Notwithstanding the lower price level, gains in value among our 50 leading exports were registered by 22 out of 33 manufactured products, 4 out of 7 manufactured foodstuffs, 4 out of 5 crude foodstuffs, and 3 out of 5 raw materials. Substantial increases occurred in exports of grains, fruits and nuts, textiles, chemicals, machinery, and vehicles, timber, sawmill products, and non-ferrous metals. Exports

of meat, lard and petroleum products fell off. The foreign demand for American cotton was the heaviest in years. Fourteen-cent cotton--six cents off last year's price--found foreign markets to the extent of nearly five and a quarter million bales--a 63 per cent increase over last year's first-half total. Germany, with six months of steady industrial prosperity, was the largest buyer of our cotton, more than doubling her purchases of last year. Russia, China, Hongkong, and Japan also greatly increased their purchases of cotton. Despite the drop in the price the huge volume shipped abroad brought the total value up to \$377,000,000, or \$52,000,000 more than last year. Foreign demand for American automobiles brought our exports of trucks and passenger cars to new records. We shipped abroad 54,725 motor trucks and busses, not including electric, 56 per cent more than a year ago, and 160,000 passenger cars, 26 per cent more than in the first six months of 1926. The value of exports of automobiles, parts and accessories, except tires, was \$212,078,000, nearly 23 per cent higher than last year, setting a new high-water mark for a six-months' period. During this period we exported 45,833,000 bushels of wheat as compared with 27,857,000 a year ago, an increase of 65 per cent in volume. The average export price was \$1.50 a bushel, 3 cents lower than last year, the total value amounting to \$68,581,000 as against \$42,576,000 in 1926. With a decrease of 71 cents a barrel exports of wheat flour made a 23 per cent gain in value from \$30,935,000 to \$33,139,000. The quantity increased from 4,198,000 to 5,733,000 barrels, or 37 per cent. Exports of coal-tar products almost doubled in value, increasing from \$5,390,000 to \$10,629,000, a gain of 97 per cent. Other substantial increases in value among our leading exports were made in the following commodities: iron and steel plates, sheets, skelp and strips, 17 per cent; brass and bronze, 42 per cent; oil-well machinery, 42 per cent; power-driven metal-working machinery, 25 per cent; gas and fuel oil, 21 per cent; sulphur, 42 per cent; automobile tires, 30 per cent; rye, 189 per cent; fresh apples, 112 per cent; oranges 35 per cent; canned fruits, 64 per cent; and fish, 35 per cent. The severest declines in value were sustained by foodstuffs, lard declining 20 per cent; hams and shoulders 41 per cent; bacon 43 per cent; and corn 41 per cent. Agricultural machinery and implements were 12 per cent lower, an improvement over the 25 per cent decrease in the first quarter. In quantity exports of corn declined 37 per cent; hams and shoulders 39 per cent; bacon 35 per cent; freight cars 52 per cent; and harvesters and binders 52 per cent."

Employment in Britain Employment during July in Great Britain showed a slight decline as compared with June, the decline occurring in certain of the industries with a high rate of unemployment, among which are the pottery, coal mining, steel manufacturing and shipping service industries. According to advices just received by Bankers Trust Company of New York from its British information service a seasonal decline also occurred in the clothing and building industries, but in general and marine engineering, shipbuilding, tinplate manufacture and dock, canal and river service, there was some improvement. Of approximately 12,000,000 workers insured against unemployment under the Unemployment Insurance Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the percentage unemployed at the end of July was 9.3, as compared with 8.9 at the end of June, and 14.4 at the end of July 1926. This figure includes those temporarily out of work, as well as those wholly unemployed, which



latter group accounted for 6.6% of the insured workers, as compared with 6.5% at the end of June. The total number of applicants for employment registered at employment exchanges in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was approximately 1,055,000 at the end of July, 838,000 of whom were men and 153,000 women, the remainder being boys and girls. At the end of June the total was 1,032,000 and at the end of July last year it was 1,664,000; which figures were affected by the coal strike.

Farm Incorporation An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for September 17 says: "Large corporations have been great factors in modern business and manufacturing successes, because incorporation has enabled the organization to bring under one head all the factors necessary for the success of the business project. Several attempts have been made in corporate farming projects, but they have generally been failures because they were organized from the top down by men who knew more about incorporation than farming. But lately the incorporation of farms by farmers has come to public notice, and these farm corporations are apparently proving successful. Farming will become more and more a machine-operated industry which will require expenditure of money for equipment, but will save considerable in the cost of production. This may make it advisable for several farmers to get together, buy the machinery and run their farms as one unit. Is it too far-sighted to think that in the future, many farmers may give up their present individual unit idea and become shareholders in their local farm corporations, drawing salaries for their work, paying the corporation rent for their homes, and drawing dividends on their stock? There are possibilities of economy and efficiency in the idea, for a capable manager may be hired to direct the farming operations. As things are going nowadays, we dare not say that such a thing is impossible."

Price Fixing An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 24 says: "A thoughtful farmer said to us that his locality had practically reached the point where no corn is shipped out; in fact, in unfavorable crop years, a good deal is shipped in. The corn is fed to livestock, and it is the opinion of our informant that the country elevator in that locality will gradually become a thing of the past except for small amounts of other grain handled. On the whole, less than twenty per cent of the corn throughout the country is shipped out of the county in which it is grown, so evidently there are distinctly two classes of farmers who are interested in the price of corn--namely, those who grow it to sell, and those who buy it to feed. Now if the Government should inject itself into the scene and fix the price on corn, it is not difficult to imagine what the feeder would say, for his prospects are rarely too bright even when the prices of feed are normal...."

Rural Development An editorial in The Idaho Farmer for September 15 says: "Featuring organized grange activities this summer in practically all of the rural sections of the country is a movement in behalf of better medical and health facilities in rural communities. To this end two allied subjects have been uppermost in grange discussions: The growing shortage of rural physicians, and first aid in emergencies involving hazard to health or to human life and limb. Due in large part to the sweeping tendency toward medical specialization within the last

generation or so, general practitioners of medicine have become comparatively rare and the ranks of the 'country doctors' have dwindled almost to the vanishing point....In many States--even in some of what are popularly considered 'backward' States of the South--an institution known as the 'healthmobile' is rendering invaluable service to this end. The 'healthmobile,' operating under State college auspices, is a motor truck equipped to serve as a clinic on wheels. It is 'manned' usually by a 'crew' of three or four professional men and women from the college, and drives about filling prearranged and advertised appointments at rural schools; and at each school one or two or three days are spent in examining the school children and the babies of the community, giving advice to mothers needing it and instruction--usually with the aid of motion pictures--during school sessions and at evening massmeetings, to the children and adults of the community in the care of the body, and in ways and means generally to conserve health and prevent disease. It is work the potential value of which is beyond appraisal, and it should be going on in every State in the Union. In the fact that such a powerful and constructive organization as the grange seems vigorously to have directed its attention to this particularly important but much neglected phase of rural life, there is occasion for gratification and for the lively hope that marked improvement in health conditions in the country may follow."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 28: Livestock quotations at Chicago on top price of hogs \$11.80.

Wisconsin sacked Round White potatoes \$1.50-\$1.80 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago, few sales \$1.45-\$1.50 f.o.b. Waupaca. Pennsylvania sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$2.10 in eastern cities. Virginia yellow variety sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$3 per barrel in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 90¢-\$1 per bushel hamper in the Middle West. Midwestern Jonathan apples \$2.40-\$2.65 per bushel basket in midwestern cities. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$2.25-\$2.50 in New York City. New York Domestic type cabbage \$16-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$7-\$8 f.o.b.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 36 points, closing at 21.50¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 27 points, closing at 21.65¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 41 points, closing at 21.88¢.

Grain prices quoted: No.1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.29-\$1.57. No.2 red winter Chicago \$1.32; Kansas City \$1.65-\$1.40. No.3 red winter Chicago \$1.31. No.2 hard winter Chicago \$1.31; Kansas City \$1.26-\$1.43. No.2 yellow corn Chicago 97¢; Kansas City 93¢. No.3 yellow corn Chicago 94¢; Minneapolis 90¢; Kansas City 92¢. No.3 white corn Chicago 94¢; Kansas City 90¢. No.3 white oats Chicago 50¢; Minneapolis 46¢; Kansas City 49¢.

Closing prices of 92 score butter: New York 49¢; Chicago 46¢; Philadelphia 50¢; Boston 48¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 27: Single Daisies 26¢; Longhorns 26½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the United States Department of Agriculture for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Responsibility, approval or disapproval, for views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect accurately the news of importance.

Vol. XXVI, No. 77

Section 1

September 30, 1927

BRITISH SPINNERS AGREE An Associated Press dispatch September 29 states that representatives of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations and Cotton Yarn Associations September 28 reached an agreement on curtailment of production and minimum prices. Manchester report says that the terms have not been published and will first be communicated to the executive committees of the organizations.

THE FRENCH TARIFF The Associated Press September 29 states that delay until next week at the request of the French Government of publication of the France-American tariff correspondence, announced September 28 at the State Department, created an impression in Washington that a definite decision by the Paris government was to be expected, probably by Saturday, on its policy as to commercial duty negotiations with the United States.

FLOOD RELIEF The Washington Post to-day says: "There are indications that passage of time has not dimmed appreciation of the Mississippi River flood problem and its magnitude. Only this week Lewis E. Pierson, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, urged the extension of credit agencies in the flooded area for another year. Coincidentally the Investment Bankers Association adopted a resolution calling upon the Government to deal with flood control as a national duty. These are only two of many instances which show a realization of what the spring disaster meant to the South. The recent actions and the sources from which they come emphasize the importance of the great duty that confronts Congress. Mr. Pierson in his findings made it plain that the inhabitants of the flooded regions have been unable to raise any money crops this year. Relief agencies have extended sufficient aid to keep body and soul together, but economic recovery has not set in. Another year must elapse before any progress may be made toward self-support. Until the fall of 1928 the emergency created by the floods will continue. The despoiled inhabitants must have assistance. Withdrawal of aid now would, in a great many cases, mean starvation on land which has just been wrested from the turbulent rivers...."

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION An Associated Press dispatch from Ottawa to-day states that the United States contributed the greatest number of immigrants to Canada during the last five months, analysis of immigration returns revealed Sept. 29. In that period 12,387 Americans entered the Dominion, as against 10,996 in the corresponding period last year. British immigration totaled 36,306, as against 31,241 in the 1926 period. The greater number were Englishmen, with Scotch a close second. Germans led immigration from non-British countries outside of the United States. The next highest figures in descending order were Ruthenians, Magyars, Norwegians, Slovaks, Finns and Italians.



Section 2

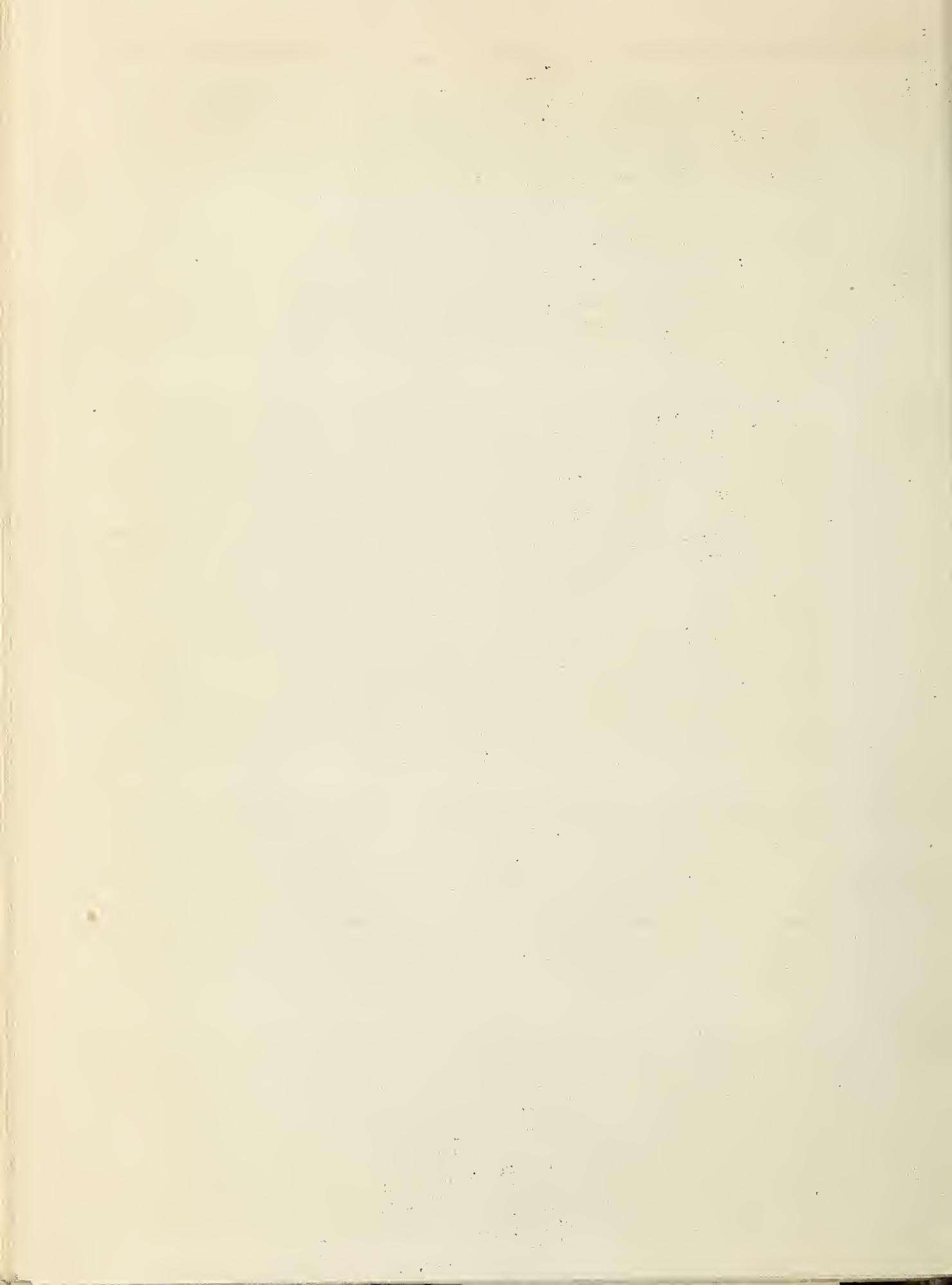
Automobile Tariff in New South Wales An Associated Press dispatch September 29 from Sydney, N.S.W., reports that the Federal Minister of Customs has announced the introduction of an amendment to the tariff increasing the intermediate and foreign duties on motor cars by 5 and 8 per cent respectively. British preference remains unchanged.

British Building Record A London dispatch to the press of September 29 states that 1,000,000 houses have been built in Great Britain since the armistice. The report says: "Sir Kingsley Wood, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Health, in announcing these facts September 28, said that of the million houses, 600,000 were built by private builders, and that nearly 350,000, although mainly built for workers, had no subsidy or State aid. The higher the subsidy the higher has been found the cost of the house."

Germany Reports New Disinfectant A Munich dispatch to the press of September 29 says: "Discovery of a new disinfectant called chlorthymol, which is said to be entirely non-poisonous and much more effective than any other antiseptic or corrosive sublimate, was announced at Munich, September 28 after extensive tests at the Institute for Animal Hygiene of Munich University and the Ehrlich Institute for Experimental Therapeutics at Frankfort-on-the-Main. Reports of scientists at the two institutions confirm the claim of the discoverer, Doctor Goedrich, that the drug is superior to all other known disinfecting agents; that it kills germs in a remarkably short time and is harmless. For the tests made at Munich tetanus bacilli were used. Wounds of animals were infected with four times a deadly quantity of germs and the disinfection delayed for many hours. Twenty-three hours after inoculation the killing of the germs was accomplished in a short time and the animals were saved....Doctor Laubenheimer, who directed the Frankfort experiments, expressed the opinion that chlorthymol may be useful in fighting leprosy and announced that Professor Baermann will soon make tests in this direction in Java....."

Grain Rates The press of September 29 reports: "Although Baltimore is less than one-fifth the size of New York, her grain exports amounted to 50 per cent of those passing through New York in 1925 and 45 per cent of those in 1926, said Walter P. Hedden, chief analyst of the development bureau of the Port of New York Authority, in a statement September 28 in the differential freight rate case before Examiner Trezise of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Other statistics were presented in an effort to show that Baltimore was already favored in the matter of foreign commerce by reason of the existing 3 per cent differential she now enjoys under New York...."

Industry's Center An editorial in Nation's Business for October says: "Industry in this country has always centered in the Northeast. South and West have grown our cotton and corn and raised our cattle. They fed and clothed us but they did not make our shoes or our wagons or our sewing machines. Industry still centers toward the Northeast but the pull is towards the South and West. The Geological Survey which records the use of primary power in factories and public utilities figures from these data our industrial center and puts it at about 50 miles southeast of Chicago. In January, 1908, it was on the northern boundary of Indiana about 110 miles east of Chicago. Ten years later, in 1918, it had



moved 50 miles nearer to Chicago, but still on Indiana's northern boundary. In 18 years it had moved only about 75 miles south and west. Meanwhile, the center of population has gone a little farther and faster and is in Owen County, southwestern Indiana, while the geographical center is near the center of the north boundary of Kansas. The latter center is 640 miles west by south of the industrial center while the middle of our population is 170 miles straight south of this new industrial center."

Northwest Conditions E.W.Decker, president of the Northwestern National Bank of Minneapolis, in an interview given to Commercial West for September 24 says:"The Northwest has definitely turned the corner...Prosperity has arrived and the eyes of the whole country will be turned toward the Northwest as never before. All enterprise should benefit magnificently in the opportunities that will be afforded the people of this section. It is a new golden era for the people of the States of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, northwestern Wisconsin and the northern peninsula of Michigan, which form the close in trade field of Minneapolis, St.Paul, Duluth and the other market centers of the area. It is a new era, fraught with great promise for the agricultural interests of Northwest, which, by the fruits of their labors, have produced the crops that have brought about this brighter prospect for the communities in which they live..The period of reconstruction in the affairs of the Northwest has been in development since 1924....Meanwhile farmers of this area had turned heavily toward diversification and crop rotation as a means of developing farm income other than that from wheat, the leading volume cereal. This had helped the situation. Dairying, livestock raising, closer attention to the details of farm management, had brought in monthly revenues. And so when the flood of money started going back to the farms this month and last for the sale of their annual crops it found the farmers with their finances pretty well in hand. Country bankers did not have to borrow of the big city banks, by millions, the amounts of money they have previously had to obtain to finance the crop movement. Summed up it all means that from now until a new crop year comes along, at least, there will be plenty of money in this section; all industry will be busy; there will be plenty of employment, and the merchants will enjoy a trade revival...."

Production and Profits An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for September 24 says: "A landlord sold his wheat in July for \$1.20 per bushel, and not knowing whether he had made a profit, he says he called up the State University to find out what it costs per acre to grow wheat. They told him that he had just about broken even. Had this landlord been the grower of his own wheat, we might understand his quandary, but being only the owner of the land and having leased it on shares, we see nothing for him to figure but the net income on his investment. Had he taken the time to take his pencil in hand and do a little figuring, he could have ascertained quite readily the status of his land-owning income. Not knowing the inside facts, we will attempt to figure it for him, using average figures. The landlord's farm is located in one of the most favored sections of the State, so the yield this year should have been around 25 bushels per acre. He sold his wheat for \$1.20 per bushel, and assuming that he received a third of the crop (chances are he received more), the gross return was \$10 per acre. Deducting \$2 per acre for taxes and upkeep leaves \$8 net. This is 5 per cent on the \$160 or 4 per cent on \$200. The only unknown or doubtful quantity in this

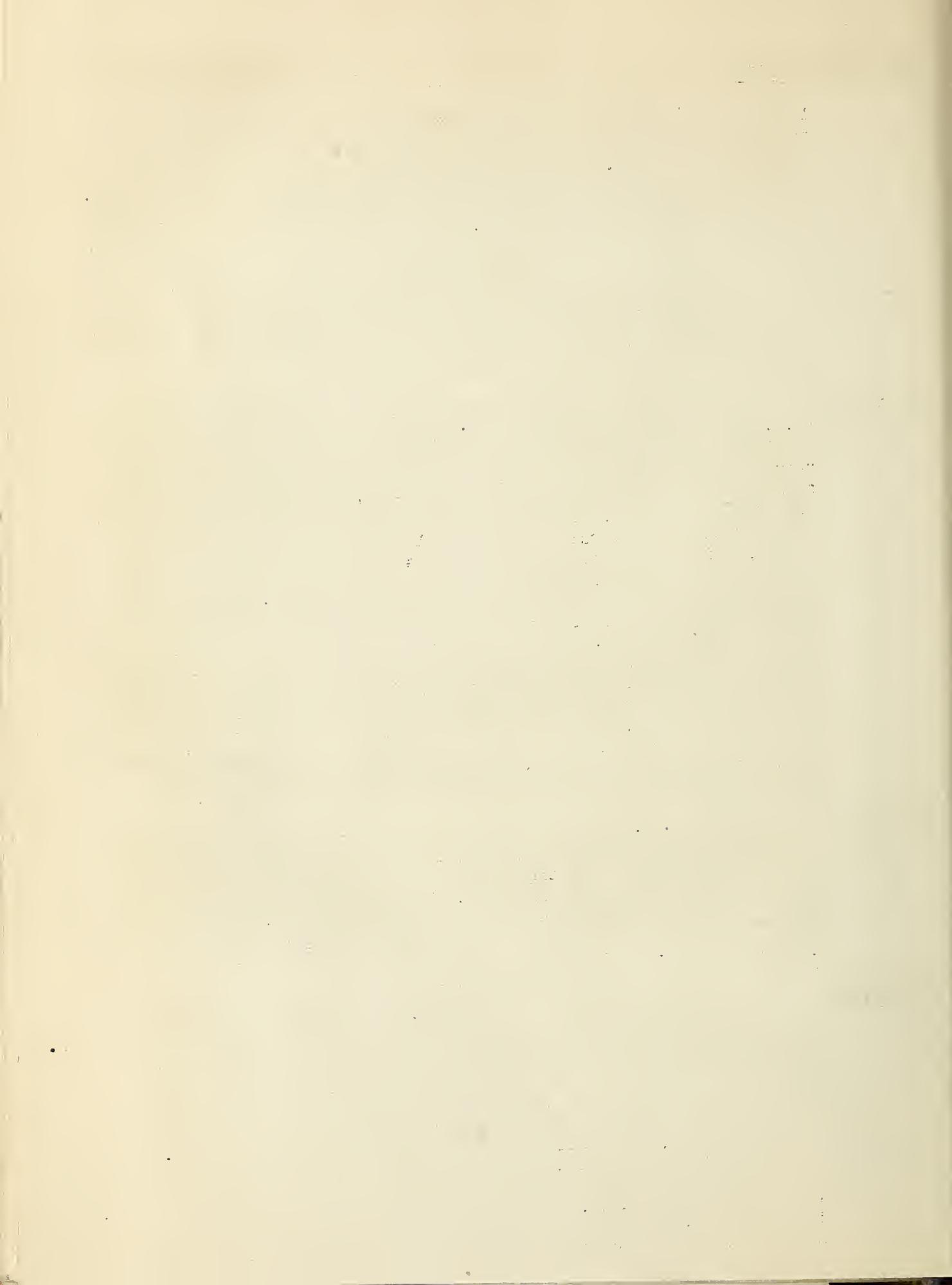
September 30, 1927.

landlord's transaction was the value of the land, and we surmise that this always will be a question with him. If the income gave his land a real value of \$160 per acre, he probably felt that the land was worth \$200. If next year the income should indicate that his land was worth \$200 per acre, the chances are he would boost the price to \$225. The capitalization of land values on a speculative basis is a popular pastime, and renders impractical any effort on the part of the Government to insure the farmer cost of production plus a reasonable profit. If the Government, or anyone else, should attempt to fix prices in order that the actual farmer might be guaranteed a reasonable return, it would also have to fix a limit of values on the land lest the landlord get all the benefit. We wonder if the landlord whose statement prompted this discussion would agree to that."

Sweet Potato An editorial in The Florida Times-Union for September 22 says: Production "....Crop rotation calls for the production of crops that shall clean the land, that shall fertilize it, and that shall provide quick cash returns. The sweet potato cleans the land and provides a profitable cash crop. It may be made the entering wedge that shall make possible the greater use of the light soils of the coastal plain, soils usually so light that in general they can not be used to produce corn at a profit, and yet on these soils the sweet potato will yield 150 to 200 bushels per acre, and, when the land is built up by other crops, and livestock, the yield of sweet potatoes may be raised to 300 bushels and more per acre. It is as a cash crop the sweet potato offers the greatest opportunity....On the subject of the size of the sweet potato market, it is not possible to do more than guess. It is certain the South is far from its saturation point, the North has hardly been interested, and the great European market has not been touched. White or Irish potatoes as well as sweet potatoes are of American origin, and while the white potato has become an important European product, the sugary sweet potato of the South has not yet established itself in the Northern States nor in the countries across the Atlantic.*"

Wine Making in Canada Native wine-making is growing, and Ontario vintners have begun making Canadian champagnes, burgundys, ports and clarets and sauterne as popular with the consuming public as the imported goods, says the Canadian Department of the Interior. Vineyards in the great Niagara fruit country have long been famous and now larger wineries have been installed to crush the grape. Back in 1923 less than a million gallons of native wines were produced. This year the production is figured to run in excess of 3,000,000 gallons.

Wool Outlook The Field (London) for September 15 says: "Professor Barker of Leeds University, who is an authority on wool matters, believes that the present world shortage of wool will be accentuated in future years and that the outlook for the sheep farmer on this account is bright. Certainly wool prices rose this summer and flockmasters will welcome further rises, although they may take no great interest in the quality of their wool. It was this general lack of concern about the quality of English wool that struck the sheep farmers among the South Africans who recently toured this country. They give wool the first consideration in breeding Merinos, and they were at a loss to understand our indifference on this score and our concentration on mutton qualities. At the present time the demand of the trade is keenest for the finest wool,



such as that of the Merino, which competes with artificial silk, and for the strongest wool, such as that of the Blackface, which goes for manufacture into carpets. The question of quality in wool is worth watching when fresh blood is being introduced into a flock. Sheep with a good fleece may cost no more than others to buy, but the extra quality may make a difference of several pounds when the wool check comes in."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products Sept. 29: Top price on hogs at Chicago is \$11.70. Northern sacked Round White potatoes \$2-\$2.15 per 100 pounds in a few cities. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.75-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago. Pennsylvania sacked Round Whites \$1.85-\$2.05 in the East. New York and Midwestern yellow onions \$1.40-\$2 sacked per 100 pounds in consuming centers; mostly \$1.30-\$1.40 f.o.b. Rochester. Virginia yellow sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$3 per barrel in city markets. Tennessee Nancy Halls 85¢-90¢ per 7/8 bushel hamper in Chicago. New York Domestic type cabbage \$13-\$18 bulk per ton in terminal markets; small to medium sizes mostly \$7 f.o.b. Rochester. Eastern Wealthy apples \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$2.15 per bushel basket in the East. Midwestern Jonathans \$2-\$2.25 in Chicago.

Closing prices on 92 score butter: New York 49¢; Chicago 46¢; Philadelphia 50¢; Boston 48¢.

Closing prices at Wisconsin primary cheese markets Sept. 28: Single Daisies 26¢; Double Daisies 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas 26¢; Longhorns 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Square Prints 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 60 points, closing at 20.90¢ per lb. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 64 points, closing at 21.03¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were down 65 points, closing at 21.23¢.

Grain prices quoted: No. 1 dark northern Minneapolis \$1.28-\$1.56. No. 2 red winter Kansas City \$1.36-\$1.39; Chicago \$1.32. No. 3 red winter Chicago \$1.30. No. 2 hard winter Kansas City \$1.26-\$1.43; Chicago \$1.30. No. 2 mixed corn Kansas City 89¢-91¢. No. 3 mixed corn Minneapolis 85¢-86¢; Kansas City 87¢-90¢. No. 2 yellow corn Kansas City 92¢-94¢; Chicago 95¢. No. 3 yellow corn Minneapolis 90¢-91¢; Kansas City 91¢-93¢. Chicago 92¢-93¢. No. 3 white corn Kansas City 87¢-90¢. No. 3 white oats Minneapolis 46¢-47¢; Kansas City 48¢-50¢. Chicago 49¢-52¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

| Industrials and Railroads | Average closing price | Sept. 29, | Sept. 28, | Sept. 29, 1926 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| 20 Industrials | 194.80 | 194.11 | 157.71 | |
| 20 R.R. stocks | 140.05 | 139.68 | 120.89 | |
| (Wall St. Jour., Sept. 30.) | | | | |

- - -

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131
132
133
134
135
136
137
138
139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220
221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263
264
265
266
267
268
269
270
271
272
273
274
275
276
277
278
279
280
281
282
283
284
285
286
287
288
289
290
291
292
293
294
295
296
297
298
299
300
301
302
303
304
305
306
307
308
309
310
311
312
313
314
315
316
317
318
319
320
321
322
323
324
325
326
327
328
329
330
331
332
333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343
344
345
346
347
348
349
350
351
352
353
354
355
356
357
358
359
360
361
362
363
364
365
366
367
368
369
370
371
372
373
374
375
376
377
378
379
380
381
382
383
384
385
386
387
388
389
390
391
392
393
394
395
396
397
398
399
400
401
402
403
404
405
406
407
408
409
410
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
419
420
421
422
423
424
425
426
427
428
429
430
431
432
433
434
435
436
437
438
439
440
441
442
443
444
445
446
447
448
449
449
450
451
452
453
454
455
456
457
458
459
460
461
462
463
464
465
466
467
468
469
470
471
472
473
474
475
476
477
478
479
480
481
482
483
484
485
486
487
488
489
490
491
492
493
494
495
496
497
498
499
500
501
502
503
504
505
506
507
508
509
510
511
512
513
514
515
516
517
518
519
520
521
522
523
524
525
526
527
528
529
530
531
532
533
534
535
536
537
538
539
539
540
541
542
543
544
545
546
547
548
549
549
550
551
552
553
554
555
556
557
558
559
559
560
561
562
563
564
565
566
567
568
569
569
570
571
572
573
574
575
576
577
578
579
579
580
581
582
583
584
585
586
587
588
589
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
629
630
631
632
633
634
635
636
637
638
639
639
640
641
642
643
644
645
646
647
648
649
649
650
651
652
653
654
655
656
657
658
659
659
660
661
662
663
664
665
666
667
668
669
669
670
671
672
673
674
675
676
677
678
679
679
680
681
682
683
684
685
686
687
688
689
689
690
691
692
693
694
695
696
697
698
699
699
700
701
702
703
704
705
706
707
708
709
709
710
711
712
713
714
715
716
717
718
719
719
720
721
722
723
724
725
726
727
728
729
729
730
731
732
733
734
735
736
737
738
739
739
740
741
742
743
744
745
746
747
748
749
749
750
751
752
753
754
755
756
757
758
759
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
769
770
771
772
773
774
775
776
777
778
779
779
780
781
782
783
784
785
786
787
788
789
789
790
791
792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809
809
810
811
812
813
814
815
816
817
818
819
819
820
821
822
823
824
825
826
827
828
829
829
830
831
832
833
834
835
836
837
838
839
839
840
841
842
843
844
845
846
847
848
849
849
850
851
852
853
854
855
856
857
858
859
859
860
861
862
863
864
865
866
867
868
869
869
870
871
872
873
874
875
876
877
878
879
879
880
881
882
883
884
885
886
887
888
889
889
890
891
892
893
894
895
896
897
898
899
899
900
901
902
903
904
905
906
907
908
909
909
910
911
912
913
914
915
916
917
918
919
919
920
921
922
923
924
925
926
927
928
929
929
930
931
932
933
934
935
936
937
938
939
939
940
941
942
943
944
945
946
947
948
949
949
950
951
952
953
954
955
956
957
958
959
959
960
961
962
963
964
965
966
967
968
969
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
979
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
989
990
991
992
993
994
995
996
997
998
999
1000

1000





